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THE TIMES

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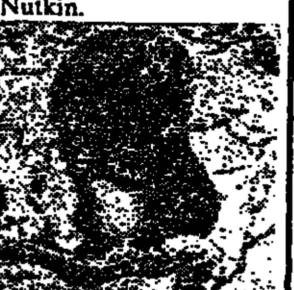
THE TIMES

TOMORROW

Writs-crackers
Writs fly thick and fast in America, land of the litigious, during the season of goodwill.

Run . . .
Michael Seely on Fred Winter, the top National Hunt trainer.

. . . rabbit
Among the Christmas post: Letters from Peter Rabbit and Squirrel Nutkin.



Class . . .
The rise of the middle class pressure groups.

. . . warfare
Sowing the seeds of civil war in Namibia.

Radioactive leak at Sellafield may lead to prosecution

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

British Nuclear Fuels, the company which runs the nuclear reprocessing plant at Sellafield (formerly Windscale) in Cumbria, may be prosecuted over the abnormal discharges from its Irish Sea pipeline early last month which resulted in the formation of a radioactive slick.

The Director of Public Prosecutions has been called in after investigations of the incident have disclosed that there may have been breaches of the law requiring exposures to the public from discharges to be kept "as low as reasonably achievable" and proper records to be kept.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, announcing the DPP's involvement in the Commons yesterday, added that there may have been other breaches of the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate site licence.

He told MP's, however, that it was clear from the early inquiries that there had been no breach of the authorized limits on radioactive discharges, although he added that the Government was considering imposing still lower limits.

The company and its chief officers could be prosecuted under the Radioactive Substances Act of 1960, which governs the discharge of radioactive material into the sea.

The penalities are a fine of up to £1,000 or up to three months' imprisonment on summary conviction or, on indictment, an unspecified fine, up to five years in prison or both.

Mr Jenkin also told the Commons that after an investigation by the National Radiological Protection Board, which analysed seaweed and other flotsam collected 10 miles on either side of the pipline, that he could not withdraw his advice to the public against unnecessary use of the beaches for the time being.

Although it remained true that any risk of contamination to the public was extremely small, radioactive flotsam was still being found, he said.

At the same time a report has been published by Ministry of Agriculture sciwntists on the marine, environmental and agricultural consequences of the discharge. Summarizing it, Mr Jenkin said that it showed there had not been any significant effect on fish, shellfish and other foods, and that there was no reason why people should not eat local catches or farm produce.

The protection board concluded that radioactivity in the seaweed samples it examined was well below the level which would constitute a hazard to the general population, but its main concern was that anyone handling the more active samples taken from the beach could exceed the annual dose limit for the skin after only brief direct contact.

Mr Jenkin has referred the issue to the DPP after seeing early results of the investigations by the radiochemical inspectorate of the Department of the Environment and the Health and Safety Executive's nuclear installations inspectorate, which he promised would be published as soon as possible after they were received by ministers, "provided there is no risk of prejudicing any legal proceedings".

MPs of all parties expressed grave concern inside the House and outside about Mr Jenkin's statement. The ministers who referred to management error in the operation of the plant, that it was an accident which should not have happened.

The Greenpeace environment group said last night that the statement had been weak and indecisive. The only credible course for the Government to restore confidence in the plant would have been to stop discharges.

Mr Jenkin is understood to be highly likely to introduce lower discharge limits, not because they have been exceeded in this incident but because they were set on the assumption that there would be an even disperal of radioactivity, and not a clustering effect as shown by the analysis of the seaweed.

Parliament, page 4

Child crusader: A Shia boy displaying support for Ayatollah Khomeini during a demonstration in Beirut yesterday. Lebanon severed relations with Iran last month.

Eight die in blast on French base in Beirut

**From Robert Fisk
Beirut**

At least one French soldier and seven civilians were killed and 17 other people were wounded last night in the latest attack on French troops of the multinational force in West Beirut.

In a pattern which has now become all too familiar to American and French soldiers here, a lorry was driven towards the heavily guarded and sandbagged French base at Nasra not far from the old Beirut front line and the explosives on board were detonated a few seconds after the driver had leapt clear.

The bomb blasted down an apartment block and civil defence workers were last night burrowing into the ruins to search for civilian victims.

The lorry rammed an earth embankment – specially built to protect the French from just such an attack – at the back of the schoolhouse where the French troops are billeted. The soldiers there apparently had no time to fire at the driver before the attack. The explosion was so powerful that it blew a hole 20ft wide and 10ft deep into the road.

At almost exactly the same time, another bomb was thrown at a West Beirut bar where American Marines often drink, killing at least three people and wounding several others.

The Pickwick Bar, just off Hamra Street, was devasted in the explosion and the first police to reach the building found two of the bodies burning fiercely.

A US Marine guard from the American Embassy had been drinking in an adjoining room but was not hurt by the blast.

The bomb attacks, which were almost certainly carried out by Shia Muslim extremists, came at the end of a day in which Israeli jets had bombed Iranian and Shia militia positions around the eastern Lebanese city of Baalbek. Syrian troops fired barrages of missiles at the Israeli planes and the authorities in Damascus later claimed that seven civilians had been wounded, two of them seriously, when bombs exploded in the Shaikh Abdullah barracks south-east of Baalbek where Iranian revolutionary guards are living.

The barracks was captured from Lebanese soldiers earlier this year and was the target of a French air raid last month which failed to damage either the barracks or the buildings inside. The Israelis said that the Iranian position – the Israelis called it a terrorist base – had housed the men who planned both attacks on Israeli soldiers in Lebanon and on the multinational troops in Beirut.

The attacks in Beirut last night may thus have been intended as retaliation for the

Continued on back page, col 2

Nilsen hurt in prison yard scuffle

Dennis Nilsen, serving a life sentence for murder, was treated in Wormwood Scrubs hospital, London, yesterday for a four-inch cut to his left cheek after a scuffle in an exercise yard with another prisoner.

The Prison Department said it was believed a razor blade was used.

UN chief's fear of nuclear war

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary-General, urged Mr Andropov and Mr Reagan to have the courage to negotiate and help avert a nuclear war. Nobody gave them the right to decide mankind's fate, he said

'Mad' superpowers, page 5

Only 3 more PRICE RISE days to Christmas..

GAS PRICES UP!

calman

Picket appeal

Leaders of the National Graphical Associtiion have asked "sympathetic" unions to back the reimposition of a picket line at the Warrington print works of Mr Eddie Shah

Facility withdrawn page 2

Swedes defiant

Sweden defied US pressure to hand over American computers seized en route to Russia. As a gesture of neutrality, it decided to keep them indefinitely in Sweden Page 6

Olivetti deal

American Telephone and Telegraph is taking a 25 per cent stake in Olivetti, the Italian data processing company, through a $260m (£183m) share issue Page 13

Wales fail

Wales failed to qualify for the European Championship football finals when Yugoslavia beat Bulgaria with a goal in injury time in Split yesterday Page 17

Poseidons could leave US base at Holy Loch

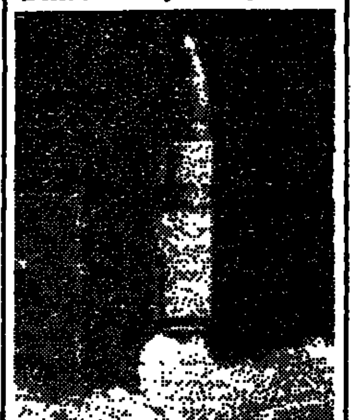
**By Rodney Cowton
Defence Correspondent**

The United States government is believed to have indicated to the British government at the highest levels that it may wish to cease using Holy Loch in Scotland as a base for its nuclear submarines, from about 1985 or 1986.

Holy Loch on the lower Clyde is the home of the United States Navy's Submarine Squadron No 14, which comprises up to 10 Poseidon submarines. The base has a staff of at least 1,800, with a similar number of dependants also living in the area.

Although the nuclear base has been a focus for hostile attention from the peace movement in Scotland, its closure would result in a significant reduction in economic activity on the lower Clyde estuary, which already faces severe problems with the threatened closure of the Scott Lithgow shipyard at Greenock, just across the estuary from Holy Loch, which could cause the loss of 8,000 jobs.

The British Ministry of Defence said yesterday that it



The Poseidon missile has lessened the strategic significance of Holy Loch.

had not heard of any American plan to withdraw, and any such reports must be speculative.

It is possible that even if the Poseidon submarines are withdrawn the Americans will wish to continue to maintain a facility at Holy Loch for other purposes.

Only recently, in the American Defence budget for 1984, the spending of £4m to construct a new pier and warehouse at Holy Loch was approved, with construction scheduled to begin next April.

Holy Loch has been in use as a US nuclear submarine base since the 1960s. The base was particularly important in the early years because the Polaris missiles which the submarines then carried had a range of only about 1,500 nautical miles, and it was necessary for there to be a base from which the submarines could operate in waters relatively close to the Soviet Union.

This agreement has continued to apply, though with less force, since Polaris was replaced by Poseidon missiles which have a range of around 2,800 miles.

OECD forecasts

UK recovery among fastest in Europe

From Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent, Paris

Britain's economy was said yesterday to be recovering faster than most countries in Europe, but with prospects of a sustained period of growth still threatened by continuing high interest rates and huge budget deficits in the United States.

This was among the main conclusions of the latest set of authoriatative half-yearly economic forecasts from the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development, the international club of leading industrialized countries. The OECD report is likely to be seen by Mrs Margaret Thatcher and other European leaders as useful ammunition in their efforts to persuade President Reagan to modify his economic policies.

The report, published in Paris, says that unemployment in Britain is likely to remain unchanged until 1985, but will continue to rise in the rest of Europe during that period. Britain can also expect economic growth of 2.25 per cent next year, 0.75 per cent lower than forecast by the Treasury, but still higher than every European country except Spain, Sweden, Finland and Switzerland.

The main question, the OECD says, is not so much whether Britain's recovery will continue, but whether its recent strength can be sustained.

Its conclusion is a cautiously optimistic one: "With recovery now occurring in important export markets, the potential for growth would seem stronger than for some time". Inflation in Britain is likely to run at 5.5 per cent next year, slightly above the latest Treasury forecast of 4.5 per cent by the end of next year, but in line with the OECD average of 5.25 per cent.

The OECD gives a warning, however, that the global economic recovery is still highly dependent on growth in the American economy, which is expected to start slowing down in 1985, after expanding by 5 per cent in the coming year.

The industrial economies in the OECD are expected to grow as a group by 3.5 per cent next yearl after 2.25 per cent this year – a slightly better performance than the OECD predicted in July.

The OECD says that the shor-term effects of a cut in the American budget deficit from 1985 onwards might be to reduce demand in the US and abroad. But in the longer run, growth would be more sustainable.

It adds that unless Europe takes advantage of any fall in the dollar to bring down interest rates at home, there will not be a significant improvement in their economies.

Bleak messages, page 14

Five held in hunt for Harrods bombers

By Stewart Tendler

Five Irishmen were held for questioning in London and Manchester yesterday under the Prevention of Terrorism Act by detectives investigating the Provisional IRA bombing at Harrods. Police are also searching for a sixth man in the Midlands.

None of the men is thought to be directly involved in the Saturday's bombing, but detectives hope they may provide useful information.

Four were arrested in north and west London early yesterday in an operation organized by the Special Branch and carried out by the branch anti-terrorist squad officers and the Special Patrol Group.

The four were taken to Paddington Green police station, considered the most secure London station and normally used for people held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. No details were released about the four or about the fifth man held in Manchester.

At Scotland Yard, detectives under Commander William Hucklesby, head of the anti-terrorist squad, were still trying to trace the movements of the Austin 1300 used to hold the bomb. Attempts have been made to produce an artist's impression of the man who bought the car from a part-time car dealer last month, but detectives are not yet happy that it should be issued.

Inquests on the five who died in the blast were opened yesterday by Dr Paul Knapman, the Westminster coroner, and adjourned to February 15.

A number of the 95 people injured were still in hospital yesterday. Inspector Stephen Dodd, aged 34, was in a critical but stable condition after an operation to remove a blood clot on the brain.

● A fund for police victims of the bomb was set up yesterday to cope with money and gifts from well-wishers.

More than £12,000 in cash and cheques has been sent to Chelsea police station. Two rooms have been needed to store Christmas hampers, drink and flowers sent in for the 13 injured officers from Chelsea and the families of the two dead.

Donations include £1,000 from a company, nearly £200 from residents of a local block of flats and 60p from three boys aged eight.

● Three Chicago policemen flew to London yesterday to honour the two police officers killed.

Shopping crowds, page 2
Leading article, letters, page 11

Dearer gas from New Year's Day

**By David Young.
Energy Correspondent**

Gas prices are to rise by up to 4.3 per cent on New Year's Day, but standing charges have been pegged. Any further increases during 1984 have been ruled out by British Gas.

The cost of heating a typical three-bedroom home by gas central heating will rise by 26p a week and British Gas estimates that cooking costs for a family of four will rise by 2.5p a week.

British Gas has also put back an increase in industrial gas contract prices from mid-January to April 1 "to continue to help British business in the fight against recession."

The tariff changes is the first for 15 months and comes after confirmation that new financial targets have been agreed between British Gas and the Department of Energy.

In contrast with the electricity supply industry, which is opposing price increases to meet new government financial targets, British Gas emphasized yesterday that the price rise decision was its own and not the Government's.

British Gas also said that the increase was in line with its policy of setting a long-term pattern of modest increases to compensate for natural gas price rises. Letters, page 11

Cabinet likely to reject calls to ban Sinn Fein

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The Cabinet is likely to take the advice of Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and reject calls for banning Provisional Sinn Fein when it discusses the issue today at its last meeting before Christmas.

Mr Prior's warnings of the dangers involved in prescribing the Provisional IRA's political wing will be heeded by ministers, and the postponement by Dr Garret FitzGerald's Government on imposing a ban in the Republic will also influence them.

However, the last document on which the Official Unionist politician, Mr Edgar Graham, was working when he was murdered, was published yesterday, calling for Provisional Sinn Fein's proscription, internment of its leaders and exclusion of its members from posts in public service.

Mr Graham had checked proofs of the paper on the night before he died, and it states: "The reality is that they are a political front for the Provisional IRA and membership of the Provisional IRA and Sinn Fein is widely overlapping.

"statements by Provisional Sinn Fein leaders reveal not only their support for violence but also their active encouragement of it."

But Mr Prior said in Belfast that banning Provisional Sinn Fein was not the answer to the province's problems.

He said thousands had voted for Provisional Sinn Fein and could work for their aims by peaceful democratic means.

He had been in touch with Dublin since the Harrods bombing and favoured joint moves on security because the problem affected the whole island of Ireland.

Mr Philip Flynn, acting general secretary of the Republic's Local Government and Public Services Union, is facing pressure to resign as a vice-president of Sinn Fein because of last week's terrorist violence. He has received the requests from branches of the union.

Leading article, page 11

Grant of £2m to cover losses at London Zoo

By Our Political Staff

Parliament is to be asked to approve a grant of up to £2m to cover this year's expected operating deficit of the Zoological Society of London.

Announcing this in a Common Written answer yesterday Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, also said that the Government had agreed to provide financial support for up to three more years, ending on March 31, 1986.

The grant will cover the deficit, and also pay for the first stage of a plan drawn up by City consultants involving basic operations and minimal maintenance at the Zoos Regents Park and Whipsn ade.

Last year, the number of visitors to the Regents Park zoo was almost unchanged from 1981 at just over one million, but rising costs took their toll.

Mr Jenkin said it was clear that it would be a little time before the society could dispense with government support.

But the president and council had assured him of their best endeavours to reduce the society's operating deficit and do without government revenue support after 1986.

GLC 'apartheid' may hit stars

**By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent**

The GLC's ruling Labour group hopes to ban entertainers who have performed in South Africa from council premises.

The ban, which would also apply to athletes appearing at Crystal Palace and other GLC-owned sports tracks, would affect entertainers like Frank Sinatra and Shirley Bassey, and classical conductors and soloists.

A number of performers could find themselves banned from the Festival Hall if the move goes ahead, the London promoter, Mr Raymond Gubbay, said last night.

"I don't think any promoter



Sinatra and Bassey: On the GLC list.

would easily accept that he could or could not choose the people he employs like this", Mr Gubbay said. "My reaction is one of some degree of shock. We engage artists for what they are and not for their politics."

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the GLC leader, said he would be pressing for the bar as part of the GLC's efforts to make 1984 "Anti-Racist Year". The council also plans to name streets and buildings after anti-apartheid campaigners.

The GLC last night said it would receive an officer's report next month on how far the ban could be legally imposed.

Show business promoters thought the main victims of any ban would be middle-of-the-road entertainers in one-night shows at the Festival Hall. Many stars like Spike Milligan and Cliff Richard have accepted work in South Africa.

Middle East buyers foiled in share raid

Middle East investors have built up a 5.2 per cent stake in Kleinwort, Benson, Lonsdale, the holding company for one of Britain's top merchant banks. The shareholding was disclosed yesterday after a largely unsuccessful attempt to increase it to 10 per cent.

The shareholders have not been named although they are known to Kleinwort, Benson with whom they have done business.

The shares are held through an investment company, for whom L Messel, the stockbroking firm, was trying to buy more

Finance and industry, page 13

Threatened council's chief accuses Whitehall of distorting budget evidence

By Hugh Clayton
Local Government Correspondent

Increase in council spending 1979-83 (%)

	Metropolitan counties	All other English councils
Government figures	111	80
Coopers & Lybrand	85	78

(Coopers & Lybrand figures adjusted for different council spending patterns. GLC excluded throughout.)

Mr John Gunnell, leader of West Yorkshire County Council, yesterday accused the Government of "deliberate falsification of evidence" in its efforts to abolish all English metropolitan county councils, including his own.

Mr Gunnell came to London armed with the first of two reports prepared by the Coopers & Lybrand management consultancy, which claimed that some of the evidence put forward by the Government in the autumn was misleading.

Ministers then published a White Paper called *Streamlining the Cities* proposing the abolition of the English metropolitan county councils and the Greater London Council in 1986. Coopers & Lybrand were commissioned to make an independent study of the plans by the county authorities designated for abolition. They are West and South Yorkshire, Greater Manchester, West Midlands, Merseyside and Tyne and Wear.

The consultants claimed that ministers had overestimated the amount of "overspend" by the metropolitan counties compared with the performance of other English county councils. That was because they had underestimated differences in spending patterns.

Most county councils devoted half of their budgets to education, where inflation had been restrained by falling numbers of children. Only about an eighth of their budgets went on police and fire services, where inflation had been more severe because of government demands for expansion and where many costs were controlled by the Home Office and not by councillors.

But the metropolitan councils threatened with abolition used more than a third of their budgets on police and fire services. For them, therefore, much more expense was governed by the Government instead of by councillors. The consultants also said that the White Paper exaggerated the difference in increases in rate demands between metropolitan counties and English councils in general.

"I believe that the White Paper is deliberately deceptive and that the Government has knowingly ignored the statistics", Mr Gunnell said. "We have over 40 per cent of our expenditure in Home Office services. Police and fire pay settlements are higher than in the rest of the public sector."

Mr Gunnell said that the first part of the consultants' study, published yesterday, had cost £40,000. The second part, about the costs off abolition, would appear early next year and would cost £30,000 for each of the six threatened councils.

● The London Borough of Hackney was given leave in the High Court yesterday to seek a ruling that the target spending figure given to councillors by the Government last week was unlawful because it was too low to enable them to do their statutory duties.

Hackney which claims to be the poorest local authority area in the country, rejects government claims that high-spending councils can make further savings without cutting essential services.

More attacks on rate-capping Bill

The National and Local government Officers' Association (Nalgo) said yesterday that the Government's plan to impose rate ceilings on high-spending local councils could cost 300,000 jobs.

The Trades Union Congress expressed "total opposition" to proposals in the Government's rates bill to impose their ceilings by "capping" ratres.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said that it wanted to start a joint campaign against the Bill with associations of local councils and curb their freedom to provide the services they felt fitted local needs, he said.

Peter Brookes
RATE-CAPPING BILL
TORY REVOLT

Oxford test of health staff freeze

From Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent, Oxford

Plans for a radical shift in health care from hospitals to the community over the next decade are to be put to Oxford Regional Health Authority next month.

One result of the changes will be a significant increase in staff, up to more than 4,000, with an increase of 36 per cent to 4,330 in the number involved in community services.

With the Government attempting to freeze National Health Service manpower at about its present level, the proposals will provide a key test of whether health ministers are prepared to see manpower rise to provide the type of community based service that the Department of Health is advocating.

The plans envisage a doubling of day care treatment in the region to 25 per cent of all acute cases, with shorter stays in hospital for maternity patients, in a package that will cut about £11m from projected spending on acute services by 1994.

Large mental illness and mental handicap hospitals in the region, including Fair Mile, St Crispin, St John's, Borocourt and Littlemore hospitals, would be closed, or reduced in size, being replaced by community-based units and more care at home, both for those patients and the elderly.

Spending on those groups would rise by about £19m, which is £8m more than if the services continued in their present pattern.

A large investment would be put into health education in an attempt to cut treatment for cancer and heart disease by 25 per cent over the 10 years, by persuading people to stop smoking, and eat a healthier diet.

The proposals would mean an increase of about 13 per cent in staff at a time when the region's population is expected to rise by about 11 per cent.

With almost 30 per cent of the region's buildings classed as being in a poor state of repair, the strategic plan envisages disposing of outdated ones, including remote large institutions. Land sales should raise £22m in the next decade.

Dr Ronnie Pollock, the Oxford region's specialist in community medicine, said the region believed it could achieve the change without local authority services having to spend more. "This is not an attempt to pass the responsibility to local authorities".

The plans were criticized by the "Who Cares" campaign, set up by ten trade unions in the region.

Crowds 'thinned' by Harrods bomb

By Robin Young

Despite the Home Secretary's declaration that not to go shopping in the West End of London this Christmas would be handing a victory to the IRA, there was little doubt among the general public in Oxford Street, Regent Street and Knightsbridge yesterday that the last-minute shopping crowds have been deterred by Saturday's bomb explosion at Harrods.

Regular shoppers, bus conductors, taxi drivers and staff at Piccadilly Circus and Oxford Circus Underground stations were all agreed that the crowds were appreciably thinner than in previous years. Store managements, however, insisted that the impression was a false one, not borne out by their trading figures.

Harrods itself was clearly busier than it had been on Monday, when the comparatively few shoppers were congratulating each other on having come to "the safest place in London".

Staff admitted, though, that the shop was considerably quieter than would have been expected in the normal pre-Christmas rush. "*Usually* you cannot move in here at this time of year", one senior staff member said. "At least it is a bit more comfortable for the faithfuls who have come". The management declined to quote their takings.

Selfridge's, however, claimed to be "busier than last week and much busier than last year".

Marks and Spencers, while allowing that the West End did seem quieter, insisted they had no figures to bear it out. "For us it has simply been a very good Christmas, especially in the gift and speciality food lines".

For Liberty in Regent Street it was claimed that figures were showing "a most satisfactory increase" on the same period last year. "We do not feel that our customers have been deterred, and we are now preparing our biggest ever post-Christmas sale."

This last will be good news for my taxi driver who said: "I decided not to go to the shops before Christmas this year, but to give my family promissary notes for the winter sales. I do not call that a victory for the IRA. I call it a victory for good sense and sound economy.

● *The Arts Council* yesterday withdrew a £1,750 guarantee for a concert at Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, after it discovered that posters for the event contained references to the IRA (Our Arts Correspondent writes).

Mr Leon Brittan: Advice unheeded

Sir William Rees-Mogg, the Arts Council chairman, said: "The concert as originally planned appeared to consist of unexceptionable twentieth century music. However, the main piece in the concert was described as Agitprop with the clear implication that purpose is to make political propaganda in favour of the IRA. This is unacceptable."

The guarantee was given to a London promoter, Matchless Music for a concert by the Eisler Collective on January 19. The poster produced by Matchless Music for the event showed a picture of a woman backed by the slogan "IRA – Long Kesh".

The central part of the concert was to have been an adaptation of Brecht's *The Mother* by John Arderr and Margaretta D'Arcy, the husband and wife writers who live in Ireland and have espoused republican causes in the past.

Matchless Music refused to comment

● Stocks of blood at the South London Transfusion Centre at Tooting, almost exhausted by demand after the Harrods bombing, were renewed yesterday by transfers of 200 pints each from centres in Southampton and Bristol and the Army's blood supply depot at Aldershot.

Leading article and letters, page 11

Pensions 'robbery' attacked

By Our Political Staff

Mr John Daly, general secretary of the National and Local Government Officers Association, said last night that a Treasury plan to increase pensions contributions by 2 per cent of pay for local government workers was "downright robbery".

"It would be nothing but a 2 per cent wage cut aimed at milking public service workers of some £350m as a kind of taxation through the back door."

The proposal, which would affect 1,060,000 local government workers, 820,000 National Health Service employees and 613,000 teachers, is not connected with a report from the Government Actuary this week which said that there should be a 1.05 per cent increase in contributions to the teachers' superannuation scheme from next April.

That report stated that the employers should pay an additional 0.25 per cent, but left to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, apportionment of the remaining 0.8 per cent which is required to make good a balance of liability, a deficiency, of £2,390m in the fund.

● Teachers' unions warned the Government yesterday that they would oppose any attempt to increase their pension contributions by 2 per cent of pay (the Press Association reports).

Teachers contribute 6 per cent of their earnings. They dislike the scheme because they say the money is paid into a notional fund administered by the Government which in return guarantees their pension.

Mr Nigel de Gruchy, deputy general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, said that teachers were not getting value for money.

New clue in tracing how cancer starts

By Clive Cookson

Another important step towards understanding how cancer starts is announced today.

A group of researchers at Imperial College, London, supported by the Cancer Research Campaign, report in the journals *Nature* and *Cell* the discovery of a number of genes which are switched on in all tumour cells but not in normal cells.

The team, headed by Dr Peter Rigby, has identified one of those genes as coming from the group associated with the body's immune defence mechanism.

The gene turns out normally to be switched on only in the embryo, a dramatic illustration of the long-suspected similarity between cancer cells and embryo cells in the early stages of development.

An editorial in *Nature* says that Dr Rigby's paper is "plainly of the utmost importance, but for reasons which at this stage are not fully apparent".

The implications are important for understanding not only the molecular basis of cancer but also how the immune system works, and how cells of different tissues acquire their specialized functions.

Protection law proposed for British inventions

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

Inventions in biotechnology and medicine and innovations resulting from small companies' efforts principal areas in which a new parlimentary Act will be needed to give British scientists proper protection.

The Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, is studying this recommendation and others made by the Cabinet Office Chief Scientific Adviser, Dr Robin Nicholson. The conclusions are in a report published by the Government this week.

On biotechnology the study says living organisms are difficult to isolate from nature and impossible to define adequately in written specifications. As a result, the disclosure necessary for patenting is carried out by depositing some of the actual organism where third parties can examine it.

The new law would be intended to give "the small inventor the chance of quick and cheap protection without undergoing the present full examination process. That can take up to two years and cost about £2,000.

The report concludes: "The small bright ideas man in the UK is at a disadvantage against foreign counterfeiting. He finds, for example, that his idea is stolen by an overseas manufacturer either acting on his own behalf or for another foreign company."

The cost of fighting to protect the patent overseas could be provided through some mutual insurance scheme with government backing the report suggests.

An increasing number of service industries would have their trademarks protected. These would include laundries, financial services, banks and the like.

Surgeons set for more heart-lung transplants

By Thomson Prentice Medical Reporter

***Heart and lung transplants* will continue to be carried out in Britain despite the death of Mr Lars Ljungberg, the first heart-lung patient in this country. The next patient is likely to be a seriously ill woman who has been assessed as suitable for the operation.**

Mr Ljungberg, aged 32, a Swedish journalist, died in Harefield Hospital, west London, on Tuesday night, 14 days after the operation. Death was due to the failure of his kidneys and other organs, the hospital said.

The surgical team was headed by Mr Magdi Yacoub, who has performed 80 heart transplants, the most recent being six days ago. Mr Yacoub was said yesterday to be "very disappointed, but determined to carry on."

The operation on Mr Ljungberg was considered to be a success. "There was nothing wrong with the technique or the skills of the surgeons", the hospital said. "There was no sign of the new heart and lungs being rejected. Mr Ljungberg was a very, very ill man before the operation. If he had been a little stronger, he might have survived."

At least three patients have been assessed as suitable for heart-lung transplants at Harefield, including the woman who is likely to be the next to undergo the operation. There have been 22 such operations around the world, most of them in the United States and 13 of the patients survive. Of 140 heart transplants in Britain, 83 of the patients are still alive.

"Our first heart transplant patient, Mr Derek Marney, died, but that did not deter us from going on", the hospital said.

NGA thwart computer innovation

By David Cross

The National Graphical Association (NGA) has thwarted what would have been a breakthrough in the use of computer technology in the newspaper industry.

Coastalpress, a small publishing company, launched a new tabloid newspaper for motor cycling enthusiasts a month ago with what it thought was the blessing of the NGA for journalists to do most of the work normally carried out by printers.

Instead of writing their stories on typewriters and then passing them to NGA members for setting into type, the journalists would have typed their words directly on to computer discs for direct input to a typesetting computer.

Indeed, the first edition of *Motorcycling Weekly*, with a print run of about 70,000 copies was set fully by journalists, with NGA members adding typesetting instructions before the material was turned into type

But when national officials of the NGA in Bedford discovered how the new weekly was being printed, they intervened to stop the practice.

As a result subsequent editions of the newspaper have been printed with NGA members rather than journalists setting the type for the computer. Mr Chris Harding, an NGA national officer, said yesterday that there had been a "misunderstanding" between Mr Bill Thomson, managing director of Coastalpress, and London Regional officials of the NGA

While discussions on the possibility of a "mutually beneficial understanding and agreement" on the issue of single key-stroke production methods with Coastalpress would continue, the union was not prepared to allow journalists at the company to set type at the present time, Mr Harding said.

Correction

Our report on Tuesday of a Restrictive Practices Court judgment referring to the need to have a qualified person in all retail agencies of the Association of British Travel Agents should have stated that the court concluded that the period proposed by ABTA for acquiring the necessary practical experience was right, not that the court gave no indication of a minimum length of practical experience.

Intruder found twice at Spencer home

By A Staff Reporter

The police have tightened security at the former home of the Princess of Wales after the discovery of a man aged 21 in the private apartments of Lady Spencer, the princess's stepmother.

Mr Maurice Buck, Chief Constable of Northamptonshire, said last night that the intruder had been found by a member of staff inside Althorp House on December 10. A week later he was discovered inside the grounds by the west lodge.

The police were called in on both occasions but were satisfied that no criminal offence had been committed. At the family's request no publicity was given at the time and the man was released.

The police would give no further details, but it is understood that the man, who has an obsession with Lady Spencer, aged 54, was found in her bathroom. He is reported to be receiving medical treatment.

Nunn wins chess prize

From Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent, Brighton

First prize in the Computer Games Ltd international tournament in Brighton was won on Tuesday by the English international grandmaster, John Nunn, with the excellent score of seven out of nine.

British players occupied the first four places. Final scores were Nunn 7, Short and Watson 6, Hodson 5, Westerinen (Finland) 4½, Plaskett (England) and Mednis (USA) 4.

The results in the last round were: Nunn ½ Plaskett ½, Ivanov ½ Westerinen ½, Hodgson ½ Mednis½, Watson 1 Short 0. The game between Murei and Burger was unfinished but looked hopeless for the Israeli.

Short's loss to Watson in the last round was doubtly unfortunate for him. He needed a win both to overhaul Nunn and to gain the seven points necessary for a grandmaster norm. This would have given him the title of grandmaster as he already obtained grandmaster norms in two tournaments.

Short never looked likely to win against Watson. He had black and played a French Defence to reach a wretched position. In his attempt to complicate matters he made his position worse. Intending to castle queenside he touched his king, then realizing that to castle he would have to break the rules and move across a line government by an enemy piece he promptly resigned.

Moderates see NUM poll as verdict on left

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Moderate leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers are turning next month's election for a general secretary into a test of rank and file opinion about Mr Arthur Scargill's left wing policies.

Mr John Walsh, aged 46, NUM full time agent for the north Yorkshire coalfield, who has been selected as the standard bearer of the right, is campaigning on a ticket of "negotiation not confrontation".

He said yesterday that the present pay dispute between the union and the National Coal Board could be solved by a compromise formula, which he will not disclose unless he is elected general secretary in the secret pit head ballot on January 20.

Mr Walsh is fighting a three-cornered contest against Mr Les Kelly, a branch official from Point of Ayr colliery, north Wales, and Mr Peter Heathfield aged 54, secretary of the Derbyshire miners, the candidate of the left and the favourite

Mr Walsh, a former amateur rugby league international, said: "I do accept that there are occasions when you have to fight and lose money. But if that decision has got to be made then it should be taken not by the leadership but by the members."



Mr John Walsh: moderate contender

The winner of the election for general secretaryship will act in tandem for three months with Mr Lawrence Daly, who is retiring early at the age of 59 because of ill health.

● Miners in North Staffordshire plan to defy their union's overtime ban next month and work normally (our Stoke on Trent correspondent writes). The potential split over the controversial ban follows the NUM's executive decision not to hold a ballot on whether to continue the action.

More than 40 winders who do maintenence work at six pits in North Staffordshire are ready to work a normal six day shift system from January 7.

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

It might seem out of proportion to ascribe too much significance to Mr David Steel's decision *not to address* the Liberal candidate's annual conference at Oxford next month. He is reluctant to tie himself down because the dates have not yet been fixed for his Moscow visit, and the conference is at an awkward time for him anyway.

Yet it *is* hard to believe that these would be sufficient reasons for *his* declining to make even a tentative commitment if he were really eager to speak to his troops. One might have expected him to be. These are the people who will be in the front line at the next election, and this would surely be a good opportunity for him to rally their spirits after the disappointment of the last election and the uncertainities over his own intentions that followed so soon after.

So this episode, trivial though it might appear, raises the question as to whether he really still has the appetite for the wearisome task of leading a smaller party. There is no reason to *doubt his health*. He has fully recovered *his fitness* after his summer malaise, whatever it was. Nor is there any reason to doubt his intention to lead the Liberals into the next election. Above all, there is no doubt that he is the best man for the job, provided that he still has the zest.

Exaggerated hopes, excessive deflation

But has he? He was not only *tired and unwell* during the summer. He was also fed up, not least with his party. Much of the trouble, I suspect, was that he and they were more disap*pointed than they should have* been by the election results. They had exaggerated hopes and consequently felt excessively deflated. their thoughts dwelt on how few seats they have now in the new Parliament, rather than on the opportunity presented by the number of votes thay have won.

Even if its support was inflated by tactical and protest voting, the Alliance did win only 2 per cent fewer votes than Labour. That must give it a chance, if Labour should stumble, of appearing as the serious oppostion to the Conservatives. It may not be a great opportunity, but it is there all right.

If it is to be seized, however, there will have to be a massive effort by the Alliance. Mr Steel is consions of being in a long-distance race. He feels the need to pace himself, and he is well aware that public attention is bound to be directed for a while more towards the new party leaders, Mr Kinnock and Dr Owen, *simply* because they are new in their posts.

More opportunity for SDP leader

These are all reasonable arguments for not pushing too *hard too soon. Yet the life of* the leader of a smaller party has to be one of unremitting effort. He has much less back-up than the leader of a major party, but he usually has to do even more to provide inspiration and a sense of strategy to his followers. It is bound to be hard for any man to maintain his pitch of enthusiasm high *enough for long enough*, especially if the lights of office remain tantalizingly distant.

So it is scarcely surprising if Mr Steel has lost a bit of his elan for the moment. This gives Dr Owen an additional opportunity to provide *de facto* leadership for the Alliance. He has performed well in the House of Commons and in the country since becoming leader of the SDP. But nobody can lead a team if he is not fully identified with it. Just as President Carter found that he could not run the Federal Government effectively so long as he continued to campaign against it, so Dr Owen cannot give the Alliance all the leadership it requires so long as he has a slightly semi-detached attitude towards it.

The Alliance needs the two Davids. If Mr Steel is not for a while quite so energetic as he has been, perhaps this will make his party appreciate how much it and the Alliance has benefited from his strong leadership in the past. Sometimes a leader needs to receive as well as to give encouragement.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 150; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7.50; Finland Mkk 6.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.25; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 33; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 6.00; Norway Kr 7.50; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 140; Sweden Skr 6.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.50; Yugoslavia Din 100



WPC wins sex bias case against police but is censured at tribunal

The police woman at the centre of a sex discrimination dispute won her case yesterday, but was severely censured by the tribunal chairman.

Woman Police Constable Wendy de Launay, the traffic officer who was banned from working with married male colleagues last February, won her claim for sexual discrimination and victimization at the London South Industrial Tribunal.

But Mr Geoffrey Heggs, the chairman, declined to make an award for injured feelings and criticized WPC de Launay for not first taking her grievance through the police complaint procedure.

Mr Heggs said that the decision to ban WPC de Launay, aged 25, from her posted "partnership" with Police Constable Trevor Attfield, an experienced traffic officer aged 31, was sexual discrimination, and her return last October to foot patrol in Fulham, west London, was victimization.

He added that her transfer was a direct result of her complain to the Equal Opportunities Commission. "She was subjected to sexual discrimination and has made out her case on all counts", Mr Heggs said. He reserved the reasons for the decision.

Mr Heggs then made a statement, saying the case was of considerable public interest. "The parties themselves are not beyond criticism in the way they have handled the situation.

"Miss de Launay is a member of a disciplined police force and she saw the problem of a relationship with PC Attfield and she should have understood that it was a matter of genuine concern to Chief Superintendent Brian Wallace regarding discipline at the Hampton, Middlesex, garage."

Mr Heggs said that WPC de Launay should have referred the problem to the commander of the police of West division or, if necessary, other senior officers under the orders and regulations.

"Miss de Launay also instituted the proceedings without giving prior notice to Chief Supt Wallace," he said.

"The fact that her conduct may be criticized is not a justification for Chief Supt Wallace to discriminate against her in the way he did, except that he was faced with a general problem.

"We find that he failed to consider the problem closely and seemed to have over-reacted."

Mr Heggs said that the tribunal sympathized with WPC de Launay for the distress she had suffered from the sexual discrimination but it was not appropriate to make a compensatory award.

He adjourned the hearing to give both parties time to "cool off" and the Commissioner time to consider returning WPC de Launay to the traffic division when appropriate.

Mr Heggs added: "It might be a good thing if the dust was allowed to settle before we decide on what recommendation should be made".

After the hearing WPC de Launay said that she was extremely pleased. "I feel that the hearing was fair and all that I wanted to come out came out.

She added: "I love the police force, but in particular the traffic police. I would like to go to any garage the Commissioner may send me to but obviously I would like to remain in the area where I worked."

WPC de Launay praised the support from PC Attfield, who is now on foot patrol in All Saints Road, in Notting Hill, west London.

PC Attfield said that he, too, was pleased with the result. "It has come out that if you are returned to foot patrol its considered to be demotion and that is one of the points I wanted to prove."

The Metropolitan Police would make no official comment on the tribunal's findings yesterday

● Chief Insp Brian Corbett, who first told Mr Wallace of a possible relationship between WPC de Launay and PC Attfield is no stranger to controversy at industrial tribunal hearings.

Three years ago he was *involved in the hearing of Miss* Maggie Coles, an LBC radio traffic announcer, who claimed, as one of several examples of alleged police harassment, that he had shouted a lewd remark at her while she was on the air. He denied.

Miss Coles won her claim for unfair dismissal.



Duty calls: WPC Wendy de Launay, whose claim of sexual discrimination was accepted by a London tribunal yesterday.

Fire risk claim over 'silly string' aerosol

By David Nicholson-Lord

Many homes could face a serious fire risk at Christmas from aerosol cans of "silly string", a supposedly innocuous solvent–based streamer designed to make parties go with a swing. Tests on one brand indicated that, contrary to the producer's claims, it remained flammable long after being sprayed.

Hundreds of thousands of cans are sold. Concerne arose after a London businessman contacted *The Times* with details of tests on one brand, Swan Fun String, produced by Porth Textiles, of South Wales.

Mr Ronald Collins, managing director of a telecommunications company and a member of the Institute of Patentees and Inventors, noticed that the string turned brown and shrivelled when Christmas tree lights were switched on near it. When he applied a lighted cigarette to it, it burst into flames and dropped hot plastic on to his hand.

Mr Collins, who has worked in fire testing, said: "People spray this stuff on to hair and clothes as well as Christmas trees. But there is no warning on the can that it is highly inflammable."

Porth Textiles, Britain's biggest producer of decorations and plastic Christmas trees, was put into the hands of the receiver earlier this month with £8m debts. The company said yesterrday that the can carried the obligatory warning against spraying near a naked flame. Mr Gareth Evans, its quality control manager, said that string contained resins and solvent and might remain flammable for up to two hours – while the solvent remained wet. After that it would become crumbly and non-flammable. There had been "no reports whatsoever" of fires involving silly string.

Mr Collins, however, has found that it was possible to set light to the string two days after it was sprayed.

● Householders were also warned yesterday about dangerously high lead and chromium levels in paint on toys imported from Hongkong. Trading standards officers in Merseyside found up to 43 times the maximum safe lead levels on toy cars which bear the name "Shekmee".

● Special precautions against extra fire risks at Christmas were called for yesterday. The Home Office advises householders to keep all decorations well clear of fires and lights, check plugs and wiring and provide plenty of ashtrays.

'Christmas in custody' drink-drive warning

By Michael Horsnell

The chairman of Grays magistrates in Essex, who have jailed 11 motorists for drinking and driving in the past week, gave a warning yesterday that offenders could spend Christmas in custody.

Mr Charles Noad, aged 63, a retired businessman, said: "We can not let false sentimentality stand in our way, despite the approach of Christmas. The fact that you are a first offender does not give you a licence to drink and drive and expect the courts to be lenient.

"So far as discrepancies are concerned, courts have to look at the gravity of the offence and the alcohol reading. But it would be helpful if there were greater consistency throughout the country.

"Disqualifiction and fineing were not having the required effect. We would like to stop it being respectable to drink and drive. It is a most anti-social activity which causes death and serious injury."

Earlier yesterday, David Jones, aged 21, was sentenced to two days in a police cell, fined £300 and banned from driving for 18 months by the presiding magistrate, Mr George Walsham.

Jones, an electrician, from *South Ockendon, Essex*, crashed through a garden hedge after a Guy Fawkes party. An intoximeter showed that he had 63 micrograms of alcohol per 100 millitres of breath - the legal limit is 35 micrograms.

His mother, Mrs Joyce Jones, aged 47, said afterwards: "I think it is disgusting. Admittedly he was over the limit, but not all that much. The fine would have been quite enough."

Earlier, Mr Walsham fined Mark Corthine, aged 22, a test driver for Ford, £250 for driving with 54 micrograms of alcohol. Corthine, from Stanford le Hope, Essex, was also disqualified from driving for 15 months.

He said afterwards: "The crack-down is diabolical. The police should tell people before they introduce these new measures".

He said that the wide variation in sentencing by courts tempted more people to drink and drive. "It is important that the drivers know they will be imprisoned.

● Mr Edward Taylor, Conservative MP for Southend East, called yesterday for the introduction of mandatory prison sentences for drink-drive offences (the Press Association reports).

Costs disputed in shoplifting case

A magistrate refused costs to Tesco, the supermarket chain, yesterday when it dropped a charge against a widow, aged 73 – but he changed his decision after prosecution protests.

Mrs Hilda Cleavley, of Bentworth Road, Bethnal Green, had been accused at Thames Magistrates' Court of stealing groceries worth £2.74.

Mr Paul Jones, prosecuting, said Tesco would drop the charge if Mrs Cleavley agreed to be bound over. Mrs Cleavley agreed and was bound over for one year.

The magistrate, Sir Bryan Roberts, refused costs over a case involving £2.74.

Mrs Cleavley said she had intended pleading not guilty and electing trial but accepted the binding order to avoid further pressure.

Mr Jones re-applied for cost, accusing Sir Bryan of issuing a thieves' charter and punishing Tesco for its compassion.

He argued that costs could be refused only if the prosecution had misconducted itself. He said the store detective saw Mrs Cleavley place goods from the shelves in her bag without paying.

After an adjournment Sir Bryan awarded £55 cost.

He said: "To proceed for £2.74 against a woman in her seventies who has been of previous good character for 21 years, was not, in my view, a wise decision."

● A widow, aged 67, due to appear in court yesterday on a theft charge was found dead at her home by a neighbour. A note at her side read: "No one loves me, no one cares, so goodbye."

Mrs Daisy Robbins, of Albert Street, Blandford, Dorset, had been accused of taking £1.20 worth of goods from a Keymarket store.

Her neighbour, Mrs Hazel Downes, said: "The note was carefully written. She didn't talk about the case but it must have been the last straw. She has been depressed since she lost her husband a year ago."

Last night Mr Greville Janner, Labour MP for Leicester West, – condemned the shoplifting law as "unworthy of a decent society".

Mr Janner is sponsoring a Bill to be debated in the House of Commons next month aimed at tightening control on shoplifting prosecutions.

Detectives praised for not shooting gunman

Flying Squad detectives were *praised by a judge* yesterday for their restraint in not firing back at a "mad criminal" who was firing a sawn-off shotgun at them.

Judge *Brian Gibbens* told the Central *Criminal* Court that if they had done so people in the crowded Chapel Market, Islington, north *London*, could have been killed. He congratulated Det Sergeant Kelly, aged 30, for his courage in disarming him.

James Daly, aged 29, of Mora Street, Islington, suspected of having IRA links, was jailed for 17 years.

He was convicted of conspiring to rob security guards in Chapel Market and shooting Det Kelly in the face.

Daly, wanted for questioning in connexion with a £100.000 robbery *in Dublin in which* two policemen were shot, was also found guilty of shooting and robbing a security guard, Christopher Sandford, of £10,000 outside a bank in Penge, south London.

The judge said that Mr *Sanford*, aged 28, had only survived because a doctor and nurse were near by. He still had 90 pellets in his stomach.

Det Sergeant Kelly: Disarmed "mad criminal".

The cost of 2 damaged young lives

Two young men who are severely handicapped after being injured in road accidents were yesterday awarded damages in two separate cases in the High Court.

Mr John Fitzgerald, aged 20, of Canterbury Road, Morden, Surrey, was awarded £318,168 for injuries he received when a car in which he was a passenger crashed in October, 1980.

Patrick Mahoney, aged 17, of Clark Street, Whitechapel, east London, was awarded £204,930 after he was knocked down by a crash on a pelican crossing in August, 1976.

Mr Fitzgerald was 17 when he suffered irreversible brain damage which impaired his memory and concentration.

He will never be able to go *back to his job as an apprentice* carpenter or enjoy table tennis and judo, at which excelled.

Mr Justice Park, who made the award, said that before the accident Mr Fitzgerald had been "lively, vivacious and enterprising, had a pleasant personality and was a smashing kid with a lovely sense of humour".

Now he was only able to do simple tacks and relied on the devotion of his father, Mr Fredrick Fitzgerald, aged 64, and in most respects would be helpless without him. When his father was no longer capable of caring for him he would need a full-time nurse, the judge said.

The damages are to be paid by the driver of the car in which Mr Fitzgerald was a rear seat passenger when it skidded, demolished a road sign and lamp post and then overturned in London Road, Morden. The driver, Mr Kevin White, of *Chester Gardens*, Morden, admitted liability.

Patrick Mahoney was 10 years old and on his way to swimming baths near his home when a coach struck him as he walked across the pelican crossing.

Head injuries initially left him totally paralysed but he has since regained some movement in his right leg and left arm.

Mr Justice Skinner, wh made the award, said that Patrick was 25 per cent to blame because he failed to look properly

The damages are to be paid by the owners of the coach, Frank Harris Coaches, of Grays, Essex, who admitted liability.

Costs inquiry urged for universities

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

A Rayner-style inquiry into the efficiency of the universities has been proposed by Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education, at the direct prodding of the Prime Minister, who is known to be dubious about their parsimony.

The proposal, to be discussed further next month by civil servants, the University Grants Committee and the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals (CVCP), is that a firm of outside consultants, such as Peak, Marwick and Mitchell, or Arthur Anderson, would look at the management of a number of universities.

The CVCP is most anxious that any such inquiry should be conducted under the aegis of *the universities, but this may* not meet with government approval. Although the universities, which eat up £1,400m of public funds annually, are not shunning an inquiry, they do feel they have examined themselves rigorously in the past few years and have cut back as much as they can.

The idea at present is that the inquiry would look at whether the universities provide value for money, but it is not thought likely that staff performance or quality of research would be examined. Items such as estate management and building maintenance would be looked at, as would staff-student ratios.

There are known to be wide disparities in these ratios between institutions in the same subject. Mrs Margaret Thatcher is said to view the universities with some disfavour and to feel that they teach subjects which are not academically rigorous.

She is also understood to be impatient with the universities' pleas for money. There is no certainty, however, that an exercise of the kind Lord Rayner conducted in the Civil Service would produce recommendations for savings. It might say that aspects of the universtiy system were seriously underfunded.

The idea for the review, which was raised at last week's private meeting between Sir Keith and the CVCP, will probably also encompass the way *in which resources are* allocated by the universities. The decision-making mechanisms of institutions will also come under scrutiny.

Mr Brian Taylor, secretary to the CVCP, said they were prepared for anyone to look at their efficiency, because they believed they were efficient. "But we want to find a way in which this can be done under the aegis of the universities", he said.

An efficiency survey of the universities would differ from previous Rayner-style inquiries in that it is felt it could not be carried out by civil servants. In order to carry authority with all concerned it would need to be conducted by a respected group of specialists from outside government.

Woodlands threatened

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Britain's remaining ancient woodlands are being destroyed at a rate unprecedented in peacetime, a report published today claims.

In some counties up to 60 per cent of the semi-natural woodland cover has been removed since the war, a high proportion of that in the past 15 years.

The report is published by the British Association of Nature Conservationists and its author, Mr Richard Grove, says there is a deveeloping crisis in the relationship between forestry and nature conservation.

Decisions made in the near future will determine the form of the British countryside for a long time to come.

The Future for Forestry (BANC, c/o Rectory Farm, Stanton St John, Oxford. £3).

● Rhododendrons, for which Snowdonia is famous, are choking new growth in woods and forests. The Snowdonia national park authority is sending leaflets to youth hostels and tourist centers explaining why it is necessary to keep the spread in check.

Duke seeks return of heirlooms

The Duke of Manchester yesterday won the first round of his High Court battle with his elderly stepmother for the return of missing family heirlooms. The Vice-Chancellor, Sir Robert Megarry, ordered an inquiry to find out what heirlooms are left and where they are.

The missing heirlooms, said to be worth millions of pounds, include paintings by Holbein and Van Dyke, and the Duke aged 54, claims them as his right under a family trust, set up in 1923 by his grandfather.

But the Dowager Duchess of Manchester, now in her seventies, and living in Eaton Square, Belgravia, claims that any possessions she has were inherited when the tenth Duke died, aged 75, in 1977.

The matter was adjourned to the new year for further argument. The case has already lasted 11 days. The eleventh Duke, who lives in kenya, was not in court.

Actor's claim for fees dismissed

Mr Leslie Phillips, the actor and star of many *Carry On* films yesterday lost his claim in the High Court against his former television agents Stella Richmond for £21,000 in lost fees. Deputy judge Sir Douglas Frank, QC, who dismissed his breach of contract claim also ordered him to pay the costs of the action, estimated at £10.000.

Mr Phillips, aged 60, of Maida Vale, north-west London, said after the hearing: "I am very disappointed at the result."

Punks chop logs for old people

Out-of-work "punks" in Guildford, Surrey, have got together with local police to help the town's elderly for Christmas by chopping and distributing logs.

Police constable Daniel Glover was impressed by his team's efforts: "They are just ordinary people who express themselves by their appearance, and this example proves to others that they are capable of being very constructive", he said.

Police chief guilty of 'kerb-crawling'

The head of Lincolnshire fraud squad was bound over to be of good behaviour for 12 months yesterday after being convicted of "kerb-crawling" in Nottingham's red light district.

Det Chief Insp Robert Warner, aged 49, who had denied the offence at Nottingham Magistrates' Court, agreed to be bound over with a surety of £100.

Mr David Blundell, for the prosecution, said that Warner was cautioned after approaching Woman Police Constable Janet Walker who was in plainclothes and on vice squad duty in Hyson Green last September.

Warner, a father of three, from Welton, near Lincoln, told the court that he had realized immediately that WPC Walker, aged 30, was a policewoman.

Mr Blundell said that Warner approached her and asked her how much it would be for "straight sex".

But Warner said that he thought that WPC Walker had been attacked by a man in Hardy Street and had asked if he could help her.

"I was not kerb crawling in the general sense. I was going down the road slowly stopping and starting."

He said that he had lost his way in Nottingham while travelling from Lincoln to Ilkeston. He told the court: "I was not even aware that you had a red light district in Nottingham.

"I did not know that Hardy Street formed a part of that red light district. It was not signposted as a red-light district; these places never are."

Warner refused to name the man he said he was on his way to visit in Ilkeston.

Mr Dick Fletcher, for the defence, said that Warner was a man of integrity and honesty who had been awarded the police long service and good conduct medal.

Warner will face an internal police disciplinary procedure, and could be domoted or asked to resign.

The head of the Lincolnshire CID, Detective Chief Superintendent Colin Bailey, told the court taht Warner was an excellent detective who could lose a pension worth tens of thousands of pounds because of his court appearance.

He said that Warner had been 28 years in the force and had 22 months to go before becoming eligible for retirement.

The civil case was brought by police under the Justices of The Peace Act, 1936.

It followed a clampdown on kerb crawling in Hyson Green during which dozens of motorists were cautioned and brought before the courts.

Doris Archer actress dies, aged 77

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

Gwen Berryman, the actress who created one of radio's best-loved characters, the Ambridge matriarch Doris Archer, has died, aged 77, in a Torquay hospital.

Miss Berryman played the role for 29 years until ill health forced her to retire in 1980. The programme attracted a huge audience when Doris Archer died in an armchair in October, 1980, much of it a tribute to an actress who for millions made the character a real person.

Mr Tony Shryane, who produced more than 7,000 episodes of *The Archers* from its start in 1951, said: "She made the character of Doris Archer a national figure, loved and respected by millions. She was a courageous women who, though often in considerable pain from arthritis, never let it interfere with her work."

In 1981 Miss Berry man was made an MBE

Obituary, page 12

Guided buses recall age of the tram

By Michael Baily
Transport Editor

Birmingham hopes to launch a new age of the tram with a "guided bus" due to start in the spring.

Instead of having steel wheels on rails, the otherwise conventional double-deck bus will run along a concrete track. Vertical parapets on either side will steer the bus by means of small guidewheels extending from the front axle.

A half-mile experimental track is being constructed along a disused tramway on the central reservation of a dual carriageway road in an inner suburb, and if successful it will be extended elsewhere in the city.

The idea is to slice through urban congestion at far lower cost than a tram or light railway. The city's earlier tramway system, abolished in the 1950s, was one of the finest in the world.

At either end of the guideway, buses will simply drive on and off, continuing through the city in the normal way. A special dispensation is needed from the Department of Transport for the guidewheels projecting three inches

A similar system, developed by Daimler-Benz in Germany, is operating in Essen and is being installed in Adelaide, Australia. Birmingham chose to develop its own system with the help of Metro-Cammell Weyman, and Guest, Keen, Nettlefold. Total initial cost is £500,000.

It has four advantages, according to Mr Bob Crawford, director of planning and engineering at the West Midlands Passenger Transport Executive.

It uses 25 per cent less road space than a conventional bus route, because the guide system confines the bus to a limited track. That will be important if new guideways are built on congested roads.

The reserved track will permit faster timings and improved punctuality. While on the track, buses will not be affected by congestion.

The raised guideways, about six inches high, will stop motorists wandering on to the track, as they do on a conventional bus-lane.

Buses can be used flexibly on or off guideways, unlike trams.

Monopoly study into franking machine firms

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Two companies dominating the postal franking machine market, Pitney Bowes, of which Mr Denis Thatcher, the Prime Minister's husband, is a director, and Roneo Alcatel, are to be investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission following many complaints to the Office of Fair Trading.

The investigation will also include Hasler (Great Britain), a subsidiary of a Swiss company, but Pitney Bowes and Roneo Alcatel, which are both foreign-owned, together account for 95 per cent of franking machines in use in many companies to imprint postage values on envelopes to avoid the use of postage stamps.

Pitney Bowes is the British subsidiary of Pitney Bowes Incorporated in the United States and Roneo Alcatel is part of France's Generale d'Electricite.

Youth accused of bomb hoax

Andrew Brown, aged 19, a despatch rider, was remanded on £500 bail until December 28 at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, London yesterday, charged with making a bomb hoax call. The court forbade him to go within two miles of the street from which he is said to have telephoned.

Mr Brown, of Stainer Close, Sholing, near Southampton, is accused of telling police there was a bomb in Blackfriars on Tuesday.

Parking meters' £133m takings

British parking meters have taken £133,470,000 from motorists since they were introduced 25 years ago, the Royal Automobile Club says.

According to a survey by the RAC, there were 52,720 meters in Britain at the end of March, 400 fewer than last year.

Operating costs have more than doubled since 1978.

Park keeper saves child from sex attack 'menace'

A man who has spent 28 years in jail for offences against boys was sentenced to another six years' imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

The woman park keeper who rescued his latest victim was praised for her "courage and quick thinking". Carl Lundbech, aged 48, whose longest period of freedom since he was first jailed has been nine months, was a menace to boys, Judge Nina Lowry said.

Lundbech was convicted of child stealing, and attempted gross indecency after an attack on a boy aged nine in Acton, west London. The child, Lundbech's 26th young victim, was snatched from the street as he went to a fish shop. Lundbech dragged him across a park and into a lavatory.

But before any sex assault could take place, the boy's cries were heard by Mrs Anne Ling, the park warden, who ran to his rescue. Mrs Ling, aged 48, comforted the weeping boy when Lundbech fled. She remembered everything she could about the assailant and was able to pick him out later at an identification parade.

Judge Lowry said it was "merciful" that Mrs Ling came on the scene and acted as she did.





Mrs Ling: praised in court.

PARLIAMENT December 21 1983

Radioactive leak case referred to DPP

POLLUTION

The series of abnormal discharges of radioactive matter from the Sellafield plant of British Nuclear Fuels Ltd in Cumbria last month has been brought to the attention of the Director of Public Prosecutions with whom the Department of the Environment and The Health and Safety Executive are cooperating.

Announcing this in a Commons statement, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said the most important thing was to prevent the repetition of such an incident and both the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate and the DoE have notified BNFL of the further measures they wished the company to take.

Mr Jenkin added the people should continue to avoid the beach in the vicinity of the discharges for the time being.

He said: During the six days from November 11 to November 16 a series of abnormal discharges were made from the Sellafield plant of British Nuclear Fuels Ltd through the pipeline to the sea. The discharges followed the washing out of the reprocessing plant in the course of annual maintenance.

Following a management error in the operation of that plant, radioactive liquids including solvent, and particulate matter of higher than normal activity were transferred to a sea tank. Attempts were made to transfer the more active material to another storage tank. This was only partially successful and a significant quantity of the radioactivity was discharged to the sea.

The Radiochemical Inspectorate of my department and the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate of the Health and Safety Executive have been carrying out detailed investigations into the causes of the incident. Neither I nor the Secretary of State for Energy (Mr Peter Walker) have yet received final reports.

While it seems clear that there has been no breach of the authorised quarterly numerical limits on the discharge of radioactivity there may well have been breaches of other conditions namely those requiring exposures from discharges to be kept. It is also possible that there were some breaches of other conditions of the NII site licence.

For these reasons the matter has been brought to the attention of the Director of Public Prosecutions with whom my department and the Health and Safety Executive are cooperating.

The most important thing is to prevent any repetition of such an incident. Both NII and my department have notified BNFL of the further measures they wish the company to take. The measures so far taken by BNFL include a ban on the discharge of free solvent and an automatic cut-off system governing the discharge of liquid from the sea tanks. Other measures are in hand.

Extensive and continuing monitoring of the environment has confirmed that the risk of harm to the public was, and remains, extremely small. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Mr Michael Jopling) is today answering a written question announcing the publication of a report on the marine environmental and agricultural consequences of the discharge. This shows that there has not been any significant effect on fish, shellfish or other foods. There is therefore no reason why people should not eat local catches or farm produce.

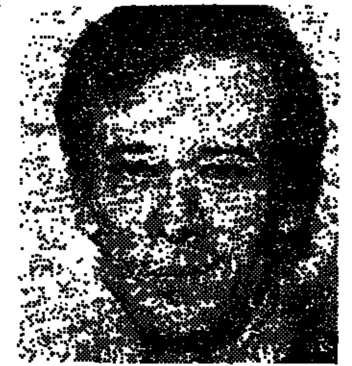
Also published today is a report by the National Radiological Protection Board, prepared for my department, on the distribution and analysis of samples of seaweed and other flotsam collected from the beach ten miles either side of the pipeline.

One conclusion of the report, confirmed by separate analysis carried out by MAFF, is that the radioactivity in the samples was well below the level that would constitute any hazard to the general population in the area. The NRPB's main concern, however, is that anyone handling the more active samples taken from the beach could exceed the annual dose limit for the skin after only comparatively brief direct contact.

It was for that reason that, on November 30, my department advised the public to avoid unnecessary use of the beaches on this stretch of coast for the time being. Radioactive flotsam is still occasionally being found, so that it is not yet possible to withdraw that advice.

It remains true that any risk of contamination to the public is extremely small. People should none the less continue to avoid unnecessary use of the beaches between St Bees and Eskmeals and should not handle objects washed up by the sea. Monitoring will continue and my department will keep the public fully informed.

This is an interim report which I have thought it right to make to the House before the Christmas recess. The Government intends that the reports both from the DOE's Radiochemical Inspectorate and from the Nuclear Installations



Campbell-Savours: Damage to tourist industry

Inspectorate should be published as soon as possible after they are received by ministers, provided there is no risk of prejudicing any legal proceedings. When we have the final reports I will make a further statement.

Dr John Cunningham, Chief Opposition spokesman on the environment (Copeland, Lab): I welcome his decision to make what he rightly says can only be an interim statement. I agree with him that it is of the utmost importance that the final reports of the NII and the Radio Chemical Inspectorate are published for the benefit of the House and the country and, not least, for the benefit of my own constituents in West Cumbria.

Is he aware of the very real anger as well as concern which is felt by the community in West Cumbria and indeed people much further afield about this incident which they widely regard as something which should simply not have happened.

What has occurred calls into question the competence of the management at the plant. Does that not in addition mean that public acceptance of the operations of the nuclear industry has been unnecessarily damaged?

Why is it that this eventuality – the discharging error of material to the sea – was not recognized when the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate carried out their exhaustive examination of the Magnox facilities and the plant in 1980 and when they reported to the Secretary of State in 1981?

Is the Secretary of State, in talking about prosecutions, able to tell us whether it is that the company which will be prosecuted or individuals?

Since it is now clear from published information that BNFL have systemically reduced their discharges to the marine environment over a period of years, they are well capable of operating satisfactorily within much lower discharge limits?

Would not that greater control of discharges bring pressure to bear on the management to prevent this kind of occurrence happening again?

Hitherto, the industry has worked on the principle of discharges being as low as reasonably achievable. Is it not now clear from the public reaction and concern that we should move as quickly as possible to a situation where discharges are as low as publicly acceptable?

Does not that mean that discharges of plutonium, caesium and other actinides should be totally eliminated as soon as possible?

Mr Jenkin: We would of course entirely agree this is an incident which should not have happened and the most important thing is to make sure it should never happen again.

I also agree it is of the utmost importance that the public, both locally and nationally, should be fully confident in the management of these nuclear plants and that this is of the highest importance for the continuance of the country's nuclear programme.

Regarding the competence of management, it would be better if I did not pronounce on that. We have not had the final report and the matters may well be the subject of proceedings in the courts.

He asked whether it would be the companies or individuals who would be prosecuted. That must be a matter for the DPP.

He asked me about the 1980 Nuclear Inspectorate's report on the Magnox plant. It would be wiser to wait for the publication of the final report. On that I can offer him some reassurance. Although the House would agree, I am sure, that we should avoid prejudice of legal proceedings and that should be an over-riding consideration, the latest legal advice I have had has shown that that need not necessarily



Warren: Increased danger from sea spray

prevent the early publication of the two reports.

On the question of lower discharge limits, from the first statement I made on the subject it is indeed our intention to work for substantially lower authorizations. I repeat now that if the circumstances seem appropriate we are certainly open to consider still further lower authorizations so this plant complies and has to comply with the best world standards for the discharge of radioactivity.

Mr Kenneth Warren (Hastings and Rye, C): Would he ask the agencies concerned to look in particular at the apparent magnification effect of the order of 10 to 20 times greater than current in the sea which results as radioactivity coming ashore from sea spray? Mr Jenkin: He will have seen a report in *The Guardian* commenting on research at Harwell which is being financed by my department. We have not had the full results of that yet but if this is a serious anxiety we shall take such steps as are open to us.

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Workington, Lab): If the Director of Public Prosecutions does recommend prosecution it will be a just return for BNFL for having pursued Green Peace for being in contempt of court which led to them being fined £50,000 which they could ill-afford.

In my constituency great damage has been done to the tourist and fishing industries and would he consider the fullest compensation for all those who have lost?

The population of West Cumberland will only be satisfied when the objective of zero discharge of radio active materials is fully realised even if the expenditure of this falls on Government.

We believe in West Cumberland if we are to retain this plant then Government and Parliament must ensure that adequate financial resources are made available to us so as to avoid all possible risks.

Mr Jenkin: The £50,000 fine on Green Peace is a matter between them and the courts. I remind him that the judge expressly said he intended to leave them with the ability to protest peacefully. It was a question of trying to stop them interfering with the pipeline. What was really wanted was that interference would cease.

Compensation is a matter which must await publication of the reports so we can see whether there is any case for that.

As for zero discharge, I would not add anything to what I have already said about authorizations. The principle is as low as reasonably obtainable, if properly enforced, and that is perhaps one of the approaches where a prosecution might lie, that produces an extremely low level of discharge indeed.

Effect of tour on Commonwealth

SPORT

The proposed English Rugby Union tour of South Africa would have damaging repercussions throughout the Commonwealth, Mr Neil Macfarlane, Minister for Sport, said during question time exchanges in the Commons. Anyone who underestimated the impact on Commonwealth sport seriously underestimated the current situation, he added.

Mr John Carlisle (Luton North, C): asked him what recent discussions had taken place with the President of the English Rugby Union regarding the proposed tour to South Africa.

Mr Macfarlane: My officials and I have had numerous discussions with representatives of the Rugby Football Union. The President is well aware of the Government's views on the proposed tour.

Mr Carlisle: While appreciating his obligation under the Gleneagles agreement to drop sporting contact with South Africa and his own anxiety to promote sporting contacts with the Commonwealth, will he confirm that at the end of the day it will be the President of the English Rugby Union and his colleagues to decide whether they tour South Africa and not he?

Will he promise not to put undue pressure or coercion upon them?

Mr Macfarlane: The Rugby Football Union will decide in the spring of next year whether this proposed tour should take place next year.

I am in no doubt that the tour would have damaging repercussions throughout the whole Commonwealth. Mr Carlisle is entitled to his views, but he must be aware of the wider context of sport throughout the Commonwealth in all this.

I will not speculate about what vote may take place among the 50-odd delegates of the Rugby Football Union. People are free to travel and go anywhere in the world if they wish to participate but on this occasion I will wish to talk to the President of the RFU next year to ensure that they understand fully that at the recent Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Delhi we re-affirmed once again this country's commitment to the Commonwealth declaration on apartheid in sport.

Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk West, Lab): Apart from the mere verbal condemnation, what will he do about the proposed tour next year by the English rugby team and the current tour of Wales by the South African youth rugby team? Is it not time that the Government imposed a ban on such clear breaches of the Gleneagles agreement by the rugby authorities.

Mr Macfarlane: I hope he will try to maintain a little cool on this subject. I regret that the Welsh rugby authorities have decided to proceed with this tour. I would urge them at this 11th hour to consider the wider implications for sport in the Commonwealth and Wales.

The Minister of State at the Welsh Office has urged cancellation of this tour in the strongest terms. The tour is contrary to the spirit of the Commonwealth declaration on apartheid in sport. I cannot prophesy what I will say to the President of the RFU next year.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): In spite of the supposed susceptibility of the Commonwealth, why does he try to penalize South Africa which after all is friendly to the West?

Mr Macfarlane: Perhaps he is not aware that just a few weeks ago the Prime Minister attended the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Delhi. The Commonwealth declaration on apartheid in sport was upheld by all members present.

Mr John Hume (Foyle, SDLP): The most evil form of discrimination is that which relates to the colour of skin. While people may change their religion or creed the one thing we cannot do is change the colour of our skin. A regime based on

Stokes: South Africa friendly to West

upholding that is evil and should get no support from any quarter.

If the minister is serious about his disapproval of this trip, why does he not tell the English RFU that he will withdraw their passports?

Mr Macfarlane: On the first part he had some credibility; but his final sentence is nonsense. There is no statute by which ministers can withdraw passports.

In this country we only understand multi-racial sport. I am told that in South Africa sport has made great strides in integration, but recently the Minister for Education there made it clear that school sport will remain segregated. That underlines the deeper problem.

Anyone who under-estimates the impact on Commonwealth sport seriously under-estimates the current situation.

Mr David Clark (South Shields, Lab), for the Opposition: He has our full support. The attitude of the English RFU is extremely selfish. If they persist in this stupid tour they put at risk the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh in 1986.

While we would not approve the withdrawal of passports, would he use his best endeavours to persuade the Sports Council to tell the English RFU that if they persist in this tour, no money will be forthcoming from the Council to the RFU?

Mr Macfarlane: These are important topics. Above all I would urge all MPs to reflect upon the importance of Commonwealth sport and Rugby Union football is a major Commonwealth sport.

Royal Assent

The following Acts received Royal Assent: Consolidated Fund; British Shipbuilders (Borrowing Powers); Petroleum Royalties (Relief); Coal Industry; Staffordshire; and Milford Haven Conservancy.

Pantomimes among the loony left

RATES

The nexus between rates and votes had become pretty slender in some areas, which happened to be those dominated by extreme left wing Labour councils, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said during questions in the Commons about rates.

Dr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, had asked if Mr Jenkin was so concerned about local accountability why he was afraid to rest his case on local electors deciding for themselves what level of services and rates they should pay.

As he has talked about the impact of his proposals on certain inner city areas where the burdens and the problems are largest, how does he explain the position of the shire counties, of Buckinghamshire for example, or the fact that his proposals will reduce the rate support grant in Surrey by over £9m? Who is he punishing there, and why?

Mr Jenkin: It is all very well for ratepayers, many of whom actually are exempt from paying rates, to vote for higher services when the cost has to be met by commercial ratepayers who have no vote.

It is the responsibility of this House to prevent the oppression of ratepayers who are facing quite unacceptable rate increases in some parts of the country.

Mrs Edwina Curry (South Derbyshire, C) had caused laughter when she said the London borough of Lewisham had invested £100,000 of ratepayers' money in a commercial pantomime and then substituted for the name of the evil monster not that of Mr Ken Livingstone but Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

Entirely in the spirit of Christmas (she said) would Mr Jenkin indicate which of the Opposition frontbench, including my fellow Liverpudlian, Mr Eric Heffer, he would like to nominate for the role of the good fairy?

Mr Jenkin: I would commend her talents as a dramatist but there are sadly a great many pantomimes going on among some of the loony left councils, not least Lambeth and Lewisham.

The Bill I published yesterday (on rate capping) will bring some sense to those local governments who are bringing local govenment itself into disrepute.

The Government's commitment to rate capping was reaffirmed by Mr William Waldegrave, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, during other exchanges.

Mr Geoffrey Finsberg (Hampstead and Highgate, C) had asked: Would he accept that millions of people voted for this Government in order to bring in rate capping and they will regard it as a betrayal if we, or the Lords, try to repudiate it?

Mr Waldegrave: He need have no fear. The central manifesto commitment represented by the Bill will be carried through to law.

Later Mr Jeffrey Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab) asked Mr Ian Gow, Minister for Housing and Construction, for confirmation that the Secretary of State did not intend to remove the vote from the disabled and unemployed as had been implied on the Jimmy Young show on BBC radio that morning, when the Secretary of State had compared their position with that of businessmen who, allegedly, did not have the vote.

Mr Gow replied that the allegation was absurd and without foundation.

Controls on tipping to be tightened

The Government is considering changes to the powers available to it to tighten up controls on the tipping of domestic and industrial waste on agricultural land, Mr Neil Macfarlane, Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, said during Commons questions.

He admitted that although the provisions of the General Development Order should be sufficient to control indiscriminate tipping of waste on agricultural land, there had been problem cases.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove, C): The welcome recovery from the recession has led to a most unwelcome resurgence in this activity.

Mr Macfarlane: I am aware of his anxiety and has drawn to my attention a number of specific examples in his constituency. Abuses have been taking place and we are having consultations on ways of tightening controls.

I hope that early in 1984 we will be able to tighten up sufficiently to meet his demands.

Judiciary totally independent

CIVIL SERVICE

The independence and loyalty of the Civil Service was part of the constitution and the loyalty of a civil servant in a particular case was somewhat lacking and had been met with dismissal, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, said at question time in the House of Lords.

Asked by Lord Molloy (Lab) whether the Government would affirm the principle that the judiciary should be totally independent of the executive, Lord Hailsham answered: Yes.

Lord Molloy: There are reports in many sectors of the media that the Government have savaged this vital principle and that the Master of the Rolls (Sir John Donaldson) has been involved.

This is an extremely serious situation. The cries of consternation are not limited to the area of industrial relations.

Lord Hailsham: I do not think that will quite do. The Government has not savaged anything, not even Lord Molloy. (Laughter)

The Earl of Lauderdale (C): Does not the great guarantee of the independence of the judiciary rest with the power of the Lords to veto the dismissal of any judge?

Lord Hailsham: This is not the only defence. This is applied to the higher judiciary where a resolution of both Houses is required. The independence of the judiciary applies right down the scale to the magistrates in the humblest petty sessional court. There I remain, the bastion of liberty.

Lord Elwyn-Jones: While the maintenance of the independence of the judiciary is of vital importance, is it not also important that ministers and civil servants should take great care not to involve judges in political matters?

Lord Hailsham: Yes. The independence and loyalty of the Civil Service is also part of our constitution and I think the loyalty of a civil servant in this particular case was somewhat lacking and has been met with dismissal.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Christmas adjournment debates on various topics.

Repatriation of prisoners

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government had no intention of putting itself in a position where it could be browbeaten into an exchange of prisoners, Lord Elton, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, assured Peers during the second reading debate on the Repatriation of Prisoners Bill in the House of Lords.

The Bill enables the transfer of prisoners with their consent between the United Kingdom and other countries under international agreements.

When fears were raised that terrorists who committed crimes in Britain might be allowed to serve their sentences in their home countries, Lord Elton said the Government intended that the public interest should always be the basis of decisions in cases where prisoners were not returned. Referring to the Harrods bombing, he commented: In recent horrific circumstances I do not think the House need be in any doubt where the public interest lies.

He pointed out that the Republic of Ireland was a member of the Council of Europe but had not yet ratified the convention which would allow transfers of prisoners between here and the republic.

The Bill was a humanitarian measure commanding wide support. A person imprisoned in a country not his own suffered considerably more from his imprisonment than fellow prisoners who were natives of that country. The Bill would give wide powers to the Government to make special transfer arrangements with other countries.

The Bill was read a second time.

Extension of right to buy

HOUSING

The Government's "right to buy" provisions have been extended to tenants of county council owned homes no longer required for operational purposes under a new clause and associated amendments added by the Commons to the Housing and Building Control Bill. Hitherto this right has only applied to tenants of district councils.

Moving the new clause – which was carried by 262 votes to 151 Government majority, 111. Mr Ian Gow, Minister for Housing and Construction, said during the Report stage that most country council tenants held their properties on tenancies let by countries for purposes closely related to one or other of their functions, for example, police officers, wardens, caretakers, or dwellings let on a short-term basis prior to redevelopment.

County councils were not included in the 1980 Housing Act because of the supposed specialized nature of the letting where a right to buy would clearly not be appropriate. However, the Government had become increasingly concerned about the position of county council tenants whose homes were no longer required by their landlords for operational purposes. There were a significant number of these.

The amendments would provide for the common treatment of county and district tenants. It would bring county council tenants within the security of tenure and right to buy provisions of the 1980 Act, subject to most important safeguards on the operational requirments of the county councils.

Exceptions to the provisions would be be police housing, where the tenant was a police officer and the house was provided free from rent and rates, dwellings within the curtilage of buildings held for non-housing purposes, such as schools, and those normally reserved for occupation on contract of employment but exceptionally let on a temporary bases.

Mr John Fraser, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, said they ahd no objection to security of tenure being given to tenants of county councils with the exceptions which the Minister had sensibly put into the Bill. Where they differed from the Government was in extending the right to buy to those that were given security of tenure.

The new clause gave the right to buy in circumstances which could be absurdly costly

Call for regional bodies

LIBERAL BILL

Mr Paddy Ashdown (Yeovil, L) was given leave in the Commons under the 10-minute rule procedure to bring in his Regional Assemblies (England) Bill which would establish regional assemblies in England.

He said he must be one of the few MPs who sought to get elected substantially to reduce the influence of Parliament and hand back to the people of Britain the power to control their own destiny.

Increasingly over the past four years there had been a shift from local government to central government, and the influence of the Prime Minister and the great Civil Service bureaucracy had grown at the expense of local democracy and genuine participative democracy.

A free society and a strong democracy could only be maintained if it was founded on the principle that people had a right effectively to participate in the decisions that shaped their own lives – in the workplace, in the operation of the ballot box, and in the process of government itself.

Alone of the parties of this House (he said) we are prepared to say to the people of Britain we trust you not just to do what we say but to make your own decisions on your own lives.

This Bill was the first part of a great programme of reform the Liberals and SDP wanted. Its aim was no less than to make the powers of the British state weaker, in order to make the powers of the British people stronger.

The Bill was read a first time.

Tory MPs say housing benefit cut will hit million pensioners

By Kenneth Gosling

More than 1,250,000 pensioners will be worse off because of proposed cuts in housing benefit, a group of Conservative MPs told Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Social Security, last night.

The delegation, led by Mr Andrew Bowden, MP for Brighton Kemp Town, said that more than 340,000 pensioner households stood to lose over a £1 a week and more than 200,000 over £1.50 a week; 130,000 of these in excess of £2 week.

Mr Boyson promised to consider the group's representations; the Government will have to lay regulations before the Commons after the Christmas recess.

Loss £	Pensioner households affected
0.00-0.50	700,000
0.51-0.75	170,000
0.76-1.00	120,000
1.00-1.25	80,000
1.25-1.50	50,000
1.50-2.00	80,000
2.01-2.50	50,000
2.51-3.00	30,000
3.01-4.00	30,000
4.01-5.00	20,000

Mr Bowden is co-chairman of the all-party Parliamentary Group for Pensioners with Mr George Foulkes (Labour, Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley). It had written to the minister to say that the proposal would affect pensioners who had taken advantage of incentives to provide them with an income in retirement.

The cuts were "a disincentive to save or to take up part-time work, or to contribute to an occupational pension scheme".

Mr Bowden has also had new information from the Department of Environment indicating that some pensioners who lose entitlement to housing benefit could also lose the higher rate of home insulation grants.

Since receipt of benefit is a qualification for these grants, some pensioners would only be eligible for 66 per cent, instead of 90 per cent grants. Many of the 270,000 pensioner households due to lose housing benefit entitlement under the proposed £230m cuts could also lose insulation grants.



Key move: Gary Kasparov, the chess grand master (standing), punches his move into an Acorn BBC Microcomputer in a simultaneous match against ten chess juniors at Acorn's London showrooms yesterday. While Peter Wells, aged 18, from Portsmouth, watches (Photograph: John Voos)

Spending 'debate' criticized

By Peter Hennessy

Sir Leo Pliatzky, former Permanent Secretary at the Department of Trade, who ran the Treasury's spending divisions in the 1970s, criticized the Government yesterday for failing to produce figures to back up its promised "great debate" on funding the welfare state.

Speaking at a seminar in London organized by the Policy Studies Institute Sir Leo described the Treasury's long-term spending review as "a dog that has not barked in the night".

Neither Parliament nor the public had been given any data by the Treasury on which they could make an informed judgment. The review had not been announced in Parliament; it had emerged after a non-attributable briefing to the Westminister political correspondents by the Prime Minister, in what would have been called a leak if somebody else had done it.

Sir Leo said there were three ways the review could be conducted, by a reviewed Think Tank, which he would not favour, as the Central Policy Review Staff had not worked; a 1980's version of the Beveridge Committee could be convened, which he did not favour either; Sir Leo preferred to strengthen the staff of the Treasury's expenditure divisions to provide the Cabinet with more briefing material on which choices could be made.

● The Government's war on quangos claimed 82 victims last year, a cut of about 5 per cent.

Italian loses extradition appeal on murder charges

An alleged international terrorist must return to Italy to stand trial for the murder of two Rome policemen, a High Court judge ruled in London yesterday.

Mr Justice Mann dismissed an appeal by Signor Luciano Petrone, aged 24, against a Bow Street magistrate's order for his extradition on the two murder charges and two counts of robbery.

Signor Petrone, claimed by the Italian Government to be a member of an extreme right-wing terrorist organization, was arrested last January at the home in Walton Street, Chelsea, south west London, of Miss Imogen Lucas-Box, his girlfriend.

After yesterday's hearing Miss Lucas-Box, aged 27, pledged to stand by Signor Petrone. "I am very upset but I am going to talk to the lawyers to see if there is anything else we can do", she said.

Signor Petrone already faced extradition on a charge of robbing the Italian National Bank, but, had the High Court ruled in his favour yesterday, the Italian authorities would have been unable to try him on the other counts.

The judge heard that Italian police carried out a spot-check on a car containing Signor Petrone and two other men. Signor Petrone disarmed one policeman and made no attempt to intervene while another of the men executed the officers.

The judge refused Signor Petrone leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Community radio affected by grant loss

An experiment to make broadcasting more accessible to people, including community groups, will be affected by the withdrawal next month of funding by the Government's Manpower Services Comminssion (MSC).

The MSC is to end its £37,000 grant, which paid for 10 community workers with Cardiff Broadcasting, the commercial radio station. The team ran workshops throughout south Wales, teaching broadcasting techniques and advising community groups

It also helped with the station's action desk, which offered information and advice.

Charities' income soars

Charities are celebrating a bumper Christmas this year, with income well above last year's record.

The British Heart Foundation yesterday reported a 17.5 per cent increase on last year.

"We are now able to expand our research facilities," the foundation said. "We are funding 15 professorships throughout the country, as well as funding and encouraging research into all diseases of the heart.

"Apart from research, part of our budget goes to educate doctors and the public on recent advances in research and occasionally we give life-saving cardiac equipment to hospitals in need".

The Cancer Research Campaign said that takings were £3m up on last year and had passed £16m at the beginning of December.

But a spokesman asked people not to be complacent about donations when they heard of this year's success.

"We are funding over 600 projects and we need every penny er can lay our hands on. A lot of volunteers work very, very hard up and down the country and we need money desperately for our escarch".

هكذا من الأصل

Duke wins battle to keep spoils of Waterloo

Brussels (Reuter) – The Duke of Wellington emerged triumphant from a new Battle of Waterloo yesterday.

Senator Jean Humblet, a Walloon nationalist, withdrew a demand that a 100,000 francs (about £1,250) annuity paid since 1817 to the heirs of the original victor of Waterloo should be struck from next year's Belgian budget.

The present Duke said in England that the Senator's demand was "a perfect bloody nuisance".

Senator Humblet retreated after being told by Mr Willy De Clercq, the Finance Minister, that it would cost Belgium at least 70 million francs (about £865,000) to settle the matter once and for all.

The minister promised to review the case, but added that a change would raise tricky issues of international law.

Royal plea for rare monkey

Geneva – The Duke of Edinburgh, as president of the Worldlife Fund International, has appealed for the return to their natural habitat in Brazil of 24 golden-headed lion tamarin, one of the world's rarest monkeys. The total population is estimated at fewer than 100.

The 24 monkeys, now in the possession of a wild-life trader in Belgium, were smuggled out of Brazil, which strictly forbids their export. The Duke's statement issued here described the affair as "scandalous".

Fined for ghost in plumbing

Regensburg (AP) – A West German dentist and his wife were fined DM12,400 (about £3,200) for staging a poltergeist hoax. For several months an alleged ghost named "Chopper" insulted patients in remarks emerging from plumbing fixtures in the dentist's office. The court ruled he was seeking publicity.

Desert attack

Algiers (AFP) – The Moroccan Army has launched a big *offensive in the Western Sahara*, according to their Polisario Front opponents. More than 25,000 men, supported by armoured cars and aircraft were involved, a statement said.

Gang held

Catanzaro (AP) – Police arrested 51 people in a crackdown on organized criminal groups in the southern Calabrian region. The group was alleged to be responsible for 31 murders, four kidnappings and other criminal activities.

Bus rescue

Vaduz (AP) – Liechtenstein has introduced cheaper bus fares to make public transport more attractive to those who use the 13,498 cars in the principality. The aim is to reduce the damage to forests caused by pollution.

High notes

Perth (Reuter) – An English entertainer, Peter Maxwell, is claiming a world altitude record for piano playing in a hot-air balloon after going through a medley of old favourites at a height of 5,926 ft.

10 women shot

Ankara (AP) – A farmer in Alibeyli village, east of Ankara, yesterday shot and killed his wife, three daughters and a woman relative and wounded five women neighbours. He then fled.

Volcano erupts

Tokyo (AP). – Kusatsu-Shirane (7,095ft), 50 miles north-west of Tokyo, erupted yesterday for the third time this year. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

Siege broken

Khartum, (AP)–The Sudanese Government claims its army has broken a rebel siege of the southern town of Nasir, killing 480 rebels. The attack on the town began last month.

Correction

Protesters in Damascus were barred from routes to the American and French embassies, not to the Israeli embassy as reported on December 14. There is no Israeli embassy in the Syrian capital.

President's first press conference since Beirut massacre

Reagan says Marines will stay

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

The nationally televised press conference which President Reagan held at the White House on Tuesday night has underscored the growing concern both within the Adminstration and among the public about America's role in Lebanon.

It was Mr Reagan's first formal press conference since the bombing of the US Marine headquarters in Beirut on October 23 which killed 241 servicemen. Almost two-thirds of the half-hour press conference was devoted to this tragedy.

When and under what circumstances would the 1,800 marines be withdrawn from Beirut reporters asked the President. What exactly was their role now that there had been several direct exchanges of fire between US and Muslim forces? Would military heads roll because of the lax security at the Marine headquarters at the time of the blast?

Mr Reagan, who appeared festivally cheerful but whose *stumbling replies* betrayed a certain discomfort at having to weave his way through a minefield of politically *dangerous questions, only* partly succeeded in allaying these concerns.

He reaffirmed his determination to keep the Marines in Lebanon because the region was too important to the security of the West "to just turn away". The Middle East was a tinderbox, he said, "the one place that could start a war that nobody wants".



Mr Reagan: Cheerful mood, stumbling replies.

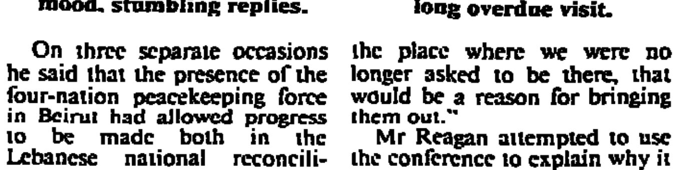




Sir Geoffrey: to make a long overdue visit.



Signor Spadolini: Careful choice of words.



On three separate occasions he said that the presence of the four-nation peacekeeping force in Beirut had allowed progress to be made both in the Lebanese national reconciliation talks and in building-up the strength of the Lebanese Army.

However, despite his contention that domestic American politics would not have any impact on his policy towards Lebanon, he failed to dispel the widely held view that the Marines would be withdrawn well before next year's presidential elections.

Challenged to explain a recent remark by him that the Marines could be pulled back if there was a total collapse of order in Lebanon, he admitted that he had used "a had choice of words". He had simply been referring to a hypothetical situation.

However, the President said that perhaps there were a complete change of course to the place where we were no longer asked to be there, that would be a reason for bringing them out."

Mr Reagan attempted to use the conference to explain why it was necessary for the Marines to be in Lebanon. Although his explanation was somewhat muddled and at times inaccurate, he did manage to get across the message that their mission was to help bring stability to Lebanon, at assist President Gamayel to bring about the withdrawal of all foreign forces.

The *President* parried questions about a highly critical report by a House armed services sub-committee into the Bierut bombing which stated that "very serious errors of judgment" by senior officers on the ground and up through the chain of command, had left the Marines vulnerable to attack.

He did, however, speak in support of General Paul Kelley, the Marine Corps Commandant, who was accused in the congressional report of intentionally putting forward misleading evidence to the subcommittee.

Mr Reagan defended the recent US–Israeli agreement on strategic cooperation saying that it was simply a reaffirmation of a long-standing relationship which should not alarm the Arab world.

This assurance has been accepted by the leading moderate Arab country, Egypt, whose Foreign Minister yesterday delivered a message to Mr Reagan from President Mubarak.

● **LONDON:** Sir Geoffrey Howe will make his first visit to the Middle East since becoming Foreign Secretary earlier this year. Egypt and Saudi Arabia will be the main stops on his itinerary, (Henry Stanhope writes).

News of the trip leaked into the Cairo press yesterday taking the Foreign Office by surprise with final details still to be concluded.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State with special responsibility for the Middle East, has made two tours of the region since the British election last June which included Syria, Lebanon and the Gulf.

A visit by Sir Geoffrey himself has been long overdue. But other issues, particularly the EEC budget, have had to take precedence.

Syria and Lebanon are the most surprising omissions from the tour, particularly in view of current fears over the safety of the British contingent in the Beirut multinational *peacekeeping force*.

As it is, Sir Geoffrey will bre going to the two leading moderate Arab states, leaving Mr Donald Rumsfeld, the US special envoy in the region, to represent the Western interest to the "frontline" governments.

● **ROME:** A date is awaited for the withdrawal of a part of the Italian contingent in Lebanon after the Government's decision for a gradual reduction was announced on Tuesday (Peter Nichols writes).

Senator Giovanni Spadolini, *the Minister of Defence*, made his statement in reply to parliamentary questions on the Lebanon crisis. He was careful to ascribe the decision to a situation now requiring fewer troops on the ground than had been the cause earlier.

The first phase had now passed and this, combined with good military planning, meant a partial withdrawal was feasible.

Christmas in Bethlehem

A shortage of good will to men

Surrounded by an overwhelming majority of Jews and Muslims, Christmas for Christians in the Holy Land – the place where it is all began in a Bethlehem manger – has taken on a beleaguered air, redeemed more by the authenticity of the locations rather than any inspirational quality they may still possess.

Bethlehem, sometimes referred to grandiosely as "the Sheffield of Palestine" because of its preponderance of small workshops, is now wntering its seventeenth successive Christmas under Israeli military occupation. As choirs from such unlikely spots as San Antonio and the Rand Afrikaans University burst into song during the televised celebrations, several hundred heavily armed Israeli soldiers will be on duty.

This year there will be an added sense of urgency as a new right-wing Jewish terrorist group, calling itself "Terror against Terror" (words which form the Hebrew acronym TNT), has recently launched a sinister campaign of booby-trapped grenade attacks *against religious targets*. Although christian pilgrims have complained bitterly in the past about the distinctly unseasonal feel brought about by squads of Jewish soldiers swinging their Uzi sub-machine guns, they may find their presence a distinct comfort in the circumstances.

Already this year Bethlehem's Arab University has been temporarily closed by military edict after a fierce anti-Israeli riots, while the town's main Palestinian refugee camp has been the scene of repeated, ugly stoning attacks against Jewish vehicles. Many of its inhabitants now fear that the Government is working secretly to shift it from its present site straddling the main road leading to the largest Jewish settlement of Kiryat Arba.

In case such grim matters should be conveniently overlooked in the spirit of the festive season, Mr Elias Freij, the town's portly and astute Arab Mayor, is on hand to provide the stream visiting journalists with a Christmas message subtly laced with the complexities of West Bank politics.

When I visited his ornate town hall, he was standing on the balcony telling ABC television about the urgent need for Jordanian-Israeli peace talks, while correspondents from *Newsweek* and *US News and World Report* Hovered in a room near by. "Because of the frightening growth of Jewish settlements, the time for talking about peace is already past five minutes to midnight", he said. "Palestinians in the West Bank are aware that very soon they will have nothing left to talk about".

Back in Israel proper, the second most favourite Christmas site of Nazareth has also been experiencing problems which speaks little of peace on Earth or good will to men. On Monday Mr Moshe Arens, Israeli's Defence Minister, told a parliamentary committee of his shock at recent statements by Jewish residents of the exclusive new suburb of Upper Nazareth denying the right of Israeli Arabs from the original section of the town to live among them.

The campaign to keep the area exclusively Jewish is headed by a local association whose aim, in the emotive words of one Israeli journalists, is to maintain their area of the biblical town *Araberfrei*.

In an effort to counter any criticism from Christian institutions, the Jewish National Fund every year performs a service not encountered in most Christian countries by handing out free more than 3,000 Christmas trees to diplomats, journalists, churchmen and the host of United Nations peacekeeping bodies based in the area.

Tomorrow: Christmas in America

Although the gifts are in fact well-appreciated and the cause of ribald comment as they are transported through the streets of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, where for most residents December 25 will be just another working day.

Other traditional customs abound, although most of the do-it-yourself basis that is the best guarantee here of a satisfacory result. Due to the rash purchase three years ago of a remaindered, Taiwan-made plastic Santa Claus suit ("ideal for office party fun"), these for me now include a regular appearance before a large gathering of young children anxious to know why (a) Father Christmas has appeared from a flat sunroof rather than down the non-existent chimney and (b) whether he feels as hot as he looks, sporting a thick, *ersatz* cotton beard in temperatures of 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

But all-in-all, the abounding Christmas mood in the cities that the carols were written about is one of austerity combined with aprehension about the immediate future, especially the prospect of a new Middle East war.

Christopher Walker

Ex-guerrilla arrested on return to Argentina

From Our Correspondent Buenos Aires

Señor Ricardo Obregón Cano, a former leader of the Peronist guerrilla group, the Montoneros, has been arrested after returning to Argentina from exile to announce the dissolution of the organization.

Señor Obregón Cano, who was Governor of Córdoba province during the Peronist Government in 1973, said the Montoneros would in future pursue their left-wing ideology through a Peronist-associated political party.

He was arrested upon arrival from Brazil on Tuesday, after eight years in exile, on charges including illicit association and verbal incitement to violence. He was accompanied by Señor Oscar Bidegain, a former Montonero leader and Peronist governor of Buenos Aires province, who was not arrested.

President Alfonsin issued a decree last week calling for the trial of seven suspected terrorist leaders, including Señor Obregón Cano, for their part in the bloodshed of the past decade. It is not known if the charges against Señor Obregón Cano stem from the presidential order or previous litigation.

The decision is believed to have been an attempt to offset the political repercussions of a simultaneous decree ordering nine former military to be court martialled

The Montoneros group was originally formed by right-wing nationalists in 1969

The Montoneros burst on to the Argentine political scene in 1970, when they kidnapped and murdered General Pedro Aramburu, one of the leaders of the military regime which had overthrown President Juan Perón in 1955.

During the early 1970s the group adopted a left-wing ideology and recruited mainly young, middle-class Argentines

With the return of General Perón as President of Argentina in 1973, the Montoneros entered into bloody conflict with armed right-wing sectors of the Peronist movement who had links with some military and police officers.

The Montoneros' subsequent part in killing hundreds of military and police personnel was used as a justification by the military for the 1976 coup against the constitutional Government of General Perón's widow, Señora Isabel Perón.

The latest military officer to be charged with human rights violations during the seven years of military rule is former *President Reynaldo Bignone*, less then two weeks after he formally handed over the Government to civilians.



Bouncing back: Bob Hope, flanked by actresses Cathy Lee Crosby (left) and Ann Jillian, before leaving California for the Middle East, where he will entertain American servicemen. The comedian has been heavily criticized recently over the collapse of the Bob Hope British Classic golf tournament.

Fear of nuclear war

'Mad' superpowers denounced

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

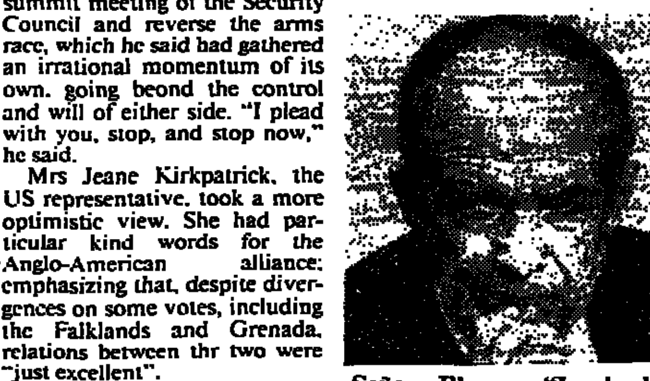
An impassioned plea for the United States and the Soviet Union to draw back from nuclear confrontation and return to the negotiating table was made by Señor Jorge Illueca of Panama, the president of the United Nations General Assembly, as he closed its 38th session. He told the two sides to end their "madness".

He also renewed an appeal to Presidents Reagan and Andropov to join other members at a summit meeting of the Security Council and reverse the arms race, which he said had gathered an irrational momentum of its own, going beond the control and will of either side. "I plead with you, stop, and stop now," he said.

Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the US representative, took a more optimistic view. She had particular kind words for the Anglo-American alliance: emphasizing that, despite divergences on some votes, including the Falklands and Grenada, relations between thr two were "just excellent".

● **OTTAWA:** Opponents of cruise missile testing in Canada are going to have their day before the country's highest court (John Best writes). The Supreme Court has granted Operation Dismantle, a coalition of anti-nuclear groups, leave to appeal against an earlier decision by the Federal Court which upheld the Government's right to authorize the testing.

Unless stopped by the courts, the US Air Force will begin testing cruise in north-west Canada late this winter. Operation Dismantle says the tests will contribute to the arms race and increase the risk



Señor Illueca: "I plead with you, stop, and stop now."

● **BONN:** Mr Peter Varkonyi, the Hungarian Foreign Minister, told Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his opposite number here, that Hungary regarded the Stockholm disarmament conference as very important, and he gave a clear hint that he would attend the opening on January 17 (Michael Binyon writes).

During talks which dealt largely with the security situation in Europe after the breakdown of arms negotiations, Mr Varkonyi said his country wanted to see a continuation of détente and good relations with West Germany.

● **GENEVA:** The controversy on deployment of cruise and Pershing 2 is marked by "lack of rational argument and too much emotion", Dr Joseph Luns, the Secretary-General of Nato, said yesterday. He was answering questions at the Geneva Diplomatic Club (Alan McGregor writes).

Poles will not see 'Day After' film

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

After weeks of backroom political wheeling and dealing the Polish authorities have decided against showing *The Day After*, the controversial American television film about nuclear war.

For some time it seemed as if the Government would confound Western critics of the film by giving it prime time treatment on Polish television, thus demonstrating that Warsaw Pact countries were also capable of informing their public about the hazards of atomic war.

The US network ABC offered the film to Warsaw for a relatively small sum – under $10,000 by some accounts – and a series of private screenings were arranged. The audiences included members of the Polish General Staff who approved the idea of showing the film to Poles. Special video recordings were presented to the government spokesman and presumably found their way to General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the head of state.

But on Tuesday, the decision against public screening was made, apparently after propaganda specialists had studied the written transcript of the film. The film includes references to a mutiny within the East German Army and it is made clear throughout that the war has broken out because of Soviet aggression.

One of the final scenes, in which the voice of the President is heard to say that the Soviet Union suffered equivalent damage to the United States, was seen as particularly controversial, particularly sensitive to socialist audiences.

The American network had insisted that the film should be shown with the full text, without censorship. The only people to see the film on Tuesday were a group of invited *Soviet journalists. Rumours* persist that Moscow, too, is at least considering buying the film.

Meanwhile, for the first time, the commander of Poland's air defence forces, General Longin Lozowicki, has revealed what "counter-measures" Poland is planning to the stationing of new cruise and Pershing missiles in Western Europe. Air defence equipment is being prepared for the "complex situation".

"Advanced electronic equipment and in particular radio-*location stations and automated* systems for transmitting radar information – all this ensures conditions for the successful execution of the tasks of the missile forces and air defence interception," he said in an interview with PAP news agency.

The point was, he said, to speed up the Polish response to a Western attack and this required both coordination with neighbouring Warsaw Pact countries and efficient use of automated defence systems.

● **MOSCOW:** Broadcasting sources said yesterday that talks between *ABC* and *the Soviet* authorities over *The Day After* had been going on for several weeks without success. There was now little chance that the film would be shown in Russia (Richard Owen writes).

The film has been seen widely in the higher echelons of the Soviet political and military elite, sources said, but the Kremlin was against allowing ordinary Russians to see it.

West Berlin gets back on the track

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

For the first time since the Second World War, West Berlin is about to gain control of the surface railway in the Western half of the divided city. After two months of tough negotiations, the city authorities are on the point of signing an agreement with East Berlin to take over the derelict and bankrupt S-bahn, administered until now by the East Germans.

Under the agreement West Berlin will pay a yearly rent of DM9.5m (about £2.43m) to the Reichsbahn – the pre-war name for the railway system that is now run under the same name by the communist authorities – and will administer the 90 miles of line in West Berlin territory as a separate unit.

Permission for the new arrangement has to be obtained first from the three Western allies, but they have already indicated agreement.

The urban railway, once one of the most advanced and extensive in West Europe, is in a sorry state. With broken-down stations, old coaches and dangerously decayed bridges and track, traffic in the Western sector has all but come to a standstill, and only three lines are functioning.

After the war the allies, administering Berlin as a single unit, gave control of its railways to the Eastern sector. After the building of the Wall in 1961, West Berliners boycotted the system. Trains continued running, though no East Berliners were allowed to travel beyond the border into West Berlin. No modernization or repairs were carried out by the communist authorities, however, and the S-bahn lost a lot of money.

The West Berlin Senate does not intend to restore the whole of the derelict network, which is no longer necessary as the underground system, built up and administered by the West Berlin authorities, is already adequate.

Of the 47 miles of track still in use, only about 25 miles will eventually be used for passenger traffic, according to the Senate's plans, and repairs to these lines are to start

The total cost is enormous: DM253m of it will be made available to Berlin by the Bonn Government.

The East Germans are estimated to make a loss of about DM100m a year on the S-bahn at present. In 1980 they tried to dismiss scores of West Berlin employees of the system, which provoked a strike that the communist authorities were able to break.

May death confirmed by judge

From Our Own Correspondent Rome

Dr Alessandro Jacobone, the judge investigating the Jeanette May case, gives no credence to allegatons that she and her companion, Gabriella Guerin, could still be alive and in Latin America.

Reports that they might not have died will appear this weekend in a Milan publication. Jeanette May and her friend vanished from the town of Sarnano in November, 1980. Two bodies were found in January, 1982, at Podalla, near Macerata.

"The one certainty we have is that the death of the two women took place at Podalla and the remains found there were those of the missing women," Dr Jacobone said.

Jeanette May's identification was certain and the body was allowed to be cremated, he said. In Gabriella Guerin's case, the present tests were aimed at removing any possible doubt.

The judge said there was no truth that investigators had been sent to track the women down in Latin America.

A new inquiry was opened a year ago into the deaths. The judge refuses to comment on what progress he has made.

Cash for Nazi conscripts

Mainz (AP) – Thousands of Frenchmen forced to serve in the German Army during the Second World War are to be compensated after France's decision to return German owned land seized in 1944, officials said here yesterday.

Some 60,000 Frenchmen who were impressed into the Wehrmacht from the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine, or their relatives, will receive payments from a DM250m (£62m) fund.

The money, provided in the 1984 budget passed this month by the West German Parliament, will be transferred to the "Endowment for German-French Understanding" in Strasbourg in three stages. The foundation will decide how to distribute the money to the surviving soldiers and relatives of others forced into German uniform, the officials said.

Sweden defies US pressure to return seized computers

From Christopher Mosey
Stockholm

Sweden yesterday nervously defied the request of Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, that it hand over more than 40 tonnes of American high technology impounded on its way to the Soviet Union.

After a report yesterday by the War Material Inspection Board, which stated that computer equipment in various containers seized by customs men here over the past month could have a military use, the Swedish Government announced last night that the equipment would be kept in Sweden indefinitely.

The move is understood to have been prompted by annoyance among Mr Olof Palme's Cabinet at the intense pressure put on Sweden to return the equipment to the United States.

This was brought into the open at a press conference in Washington on Monday, when both Mr Weinberger and Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary, said Sweden should send back the computers to the United States, their country of origin.

On the same day the Soviet press agency Novosti issued a



Mr Palme: A middle way out of the dilemma

statement in Stockholm asking contemptuously: "How is it that some people give way so easily to American attempts to dictate policy to an independent nation? "Must the Swedes really in all business deals be supervised by instructions from the USA's Defence Department?"

Under pressure from both sides, Mr Palme yesterday opted for a middle way out of the dilemma, chosing to assert Swedish neutrality while at the same time bowing to US demands that the high technology should not reach the Soviet block.

One of the options being considered by the Swedish Government is that the equipment be destroyed. However, the move has been postponed because of feared American economic retaliation.

This could include a ban on the export to Sweden of US high technology needed for Sweden's new jet fighter, a project on which could depend the survival of the country's independent aerospace industry. It could also mean a ban on the projected sale to Sweden of Sidewinder missiles.

The computer equipment, which US officials claim is capable of guiding missiles, was sent to Sweden in various consignments, the main one having been landed at Helsingborg last month from the Swedish cargoship Elgaren.

US customs men had previously obtained a court order for the removal of three containers of equipment from the ship just seven minutes before it was due to leave the West German port of Hamburg.

Four more containers stayed on board the Elgaren and were at Helsingborg, where they were put under armed guard until their contents could be examined by the War Material Inspection Board, which has to approve all arms exports from Sweden.

Further finds of related equipment were made at Malmo and Stockholm, and another case of computer equipment was impounded by the Finnish authorities at Helsinki airport, indicating the extent of the high-technology smuggling operation.

According to Swedish customs, the man behind the operation is Herr Richard Müller, a West German businessman. In 1981 Herr Müller was blacklisted by the US authorities and recently in Lübeck he was charged in his absence with illegal export of high technology.

● DENVER: Customs agents closed in on companies in Colorado and West Germany yesterday, arresting two people and seizing "critical" technology alleged by bein sold illegally to the Soviet Union (AP reports).

Among the items that the International Consulting group of Englewood, Colorado, is accused of selling illegally to the Russians are devices used to detect and measure nuclear explosions and another used to etch microcomputer chips.



Missiles and mistletoe: Father Christmas visiting a Rapier anti-aircraft site in the Falklands with a sack of gifts for the crew (from left) Gunners Kelvin [illegible], [illegible] Welsh, Andrew Griffin and Sergeant Philip Morris.

Pretoria tries to charm its enemies

From Michael Hornby
Johannesburg

The meeting between Mr Pik Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, and senior Mozambique minsters in a royal guest house in Swaziland on Tuesday has strengthened the view that Pretoria's uneven approach to coexistence with its black-ruled neighbours is entering a conciliatory phase.

The meeting came only a week after South Africa's offer to begin from January 31 disengaging those of its forces which operate "from time to time" inside southern Angola, provided that Luanda took reciprocal steps to see that its own troops [illegible] of Swapo and [illegible] "not exploit the resulting situation".

The guerrillas of Swapo, the South West Africa People's Organization, which is fighting for the independence of Namibia from South African rule, is based in Angola [illegible] an estimated 25,000 [illegible] troops. [illegible] to [illegible] into southern Angola [illegible] they [illegible] ment [illegible].

[illegible] dict- [illegible] la as [illegible] ised [illegible] at the United Nations, Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, as a valuable peace [illegible] cion that the gesture [illegible] been made at American [illegible] ng.

The Reagan Administration [illegible] its [illegible] the South African Government, and [illegible] ria's [illegible]

[illegible]

excluded [illegible]

EEC helps blind to feel their way

From Ian Murray
Brussels

The EEC took time off from its wrangling yesterday to promote a scheme which shows that the Community can do something important successfully. It is a scheme to help the 500,000 blind or nearly blind people living in the Community to find their way around.

Essentially it is a system of creating town maps which can be read with trained fingers. Pressed into heavy-duty plastic, these maps allow blind people to find their way round a strange city without the need of a guide or for asking the way in a foreign language.

The idea is more than 20 years old, but it has been slow to make progress because of the great difficulty in agreeing on standard symbols all blind people could understand. It was to overcome this problem that the help of the European Commission was sought.

The result was a symposium in Brussels six weeks ago, which resulted in that rare EEC commodity – total agreement. The symposium's report notes modestly: "Never before in this context had such complete harmonization of divergent viewpoints been achieved within the space of three days."

An amalgam of different systems has been adopted by the EEC, though many of the basic signs which have been worked out in a trial project in Nottingham, have been accepted now as the European norm. Dr Graham James, director of mobility aids in Nottingham, was able to point out many of the basic difficulties – such as how to make sure the map was held the correct way up.

Yugoslav has £4bn art hoard

Zagreb (AFP) – Yugoslavs have just learnt to their surprise that in a socialist state, an individual possesses a private art collection valued up to £4,140m, the equivalent of one third of the country's entire foreign debt.

Mr Ante Topic-Mimara, aged 86, was for many years a close friend of Marshal Tito. His collection of 3,864 items includes a staggering number of paintings attributed to such masters as Goya, Holbein, El Greco, Manet, Michelangelo, Raphael, Rembrandt, Renoir, Rubens, Tintoretto and Titian.

Many envious art critics, faced with such treasures, claim that most of them are fakes. But other art lovers have another theory.

They point to the fact that in 1948 Mr Topic-Mimara was put in charge by Tito of finding and returning art treasures stolen by the Nazis during the wartime occupation of the country. He discovered many of them stored by the Allies.

Several art critics here have wondered whether Mr Topic-Mimara's collection contains items seized from the Yugoslav royal family and rich Yugoslav businessmen which have vanished without trace.

His answer to all his critics is a defiant: "I'm not a thief, and the way that I have collected my art treasures is my own private affair."

The Yugoslav authorities appear not to be worried about the origins of the Topic-Mimara collection. They have just spent 500 million dinars (about £2.75m) – in a country where there is not much loose cash about – on refurbishing a seventeenth-century monastery to house the collection temporarily.

Junta prepares for invasion

Managua believes it has beaten Reagan

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

Nicaragua believes it has succeeded in upsetting President Reagan's diplomatic strategy against its socialist revolution and now hopes to deliver a severe military blow to the US-backed anti-Sandinista contras.

Commander Jaime Wheelock, a member of the ruling junta, said 2,000 contras had infiltrated the northern provinces of the country and "in the coming weeks we expect a battle of great importance".

Representatives of the rebels in neighbouring Honduras have long been forecasting a Christmas offensive, apparently against the key economic objective of the Nicaraguan coffee harvest. The contras were understood to have been told by Washington that a dramatic success was needed if CIA financial backing was to continue.

Sources close to the junta said 2,000 insurgents was a larger and more concentrated force than the contras had previously marshalled.

Señor Roberto Sánchez, the Nicaraguan Army's spokesman, told international volunteers, who have arrived in their hundreds to help to harvest the coffee: "The danger is everywhere. The zone of combat is virtually the entire northern border."

Amid reports of large convoys of government troops and tanks leaving the capital by night on the northern highway, Commander Wheelock said: "The immediate task is to deliver a strategic blow to the counter-revolution. We have launched a big offensive to ensure a sound defeat for them."

Recent diplomatic moves by Managua had already succeeded in knocking Mr Reagan's scenario for the region out of shape.

The military offensive comes just as a new period of calm had settled on Managua after weeks of intense expectation of war with the United States.

Whether or not the danger of an invasion was exaggerated by the junta to rally support at home and abroad, there was evidently real fear war would come and genuine preparations were made to meet it.

One Sandinista source said the nine-man junta was convinced that the conflict would occur while one of them was out of the country. The days of maximum danger were held to be in early December, when Señor Daniel Ortega, the junta coordinator, left Nicaragua to tour Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama, the four countries of the Contadora peace group.

When senior US diplomats in the region voiced profound scepticism of the Sandinistas' sincerity, they found attitudes had changed. The Contadora countries made it plain they did not share the US view.

Reaction in Nicaragua was that the United States had been successfully outmanoeuvred diplomatically. Some Nicaraguans even went so far as to declare that the diplomatic war had been won. But Señor Sanchez, a member of the Sandinista Military High Command, was more cautious. He said Nicaragua had won "a breather".

Chile 'could go way of Nicaragua'

From Florencia Varas
Santiago

The blackout which left much of Chile without electricity for several hours last week – those responsible have yet to be found – has raised fears here that the country may be in danger at a leftist upheaval similar to that in Nicaragua. The fears are based on the scope of terrorist acts in the past few months and the Government's rigid determination not to quicken the pace of a return to democracy.

"In Chile, the deadline for a democratic process along the lines of Argentina is quickly coming upon us, and it is this which those in power do not wish to understand." Señor Ricardo Lagos, president of the influential Democratic Alliance, told *The Times* in an interview. "If a democratic 'opening' doesn't come quickly in the *country, the social tension* resulting from 30 percent unemployment is going to get worse, and every day, make a more explosive situation which could turn into a process similar to what happened in Nicaragua."

According to the 45-year-old economist, former employee of the United Nations and leader of the largest opposition group in the country (the Alliance groups sectors from the right, Social Democracy, Christian Democrats and Socialists), President Pinochet has already played all his cards.

Señor Lagos said the strategy of the Democratic Alliance in coming months will be to organise a complete mobilization of the country to culminate in a national strike. If this is successful, the government will be forced to sit at the table and talk seriously with the opposition.

"We shall sit down to negotiate with the armed forces only when they agree to accept our (the Alliance's) three fundamental principles – Pinochet's resignation, the installation of an 18-month provisional government, and freely held elections for a constituent assembly." Referring to the possibility of armed revolution Señor Lagos said: "It isn't appropriate for the Chilean reality. Fidel Castro is right when he says that guerrillas are not for South America. Chile, because of its homogenous population, its past democratic traditions and its high level of literacy is different from Central America. However, we could arrive at a situation where the most extremist sectors impose their points of view."

Ray of sunshine for disillusioned Spain

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, arrived back here yesterday from a lightning trip to Paris, where he discussed the problem of Spain's application to join the EEC and Basque terrorism with President Mitterrand.

He believes he has secured French help in trying to resolve these problems but he expressed great caution, emphasizing that he did not want to raise false hopes among the Spanish people after so many [illegible] by successive French governments.

[illegible] saying more than [illegible] as I understand it, there now exists a real possibility of unblocking Spain's entry negotiations," Señor González [illegible].

It was the first official meeting between the two Socialist leaders since they took office and the talks [illegible] Mitterrand after the EEC summit at Athens. France [illegible] before it takes up the [illegible] presidency on [illegible].

In an evident attempt to keep up momentum with Spain, M Gaston Thorn, president of the European Commission, is to meet Señor González here today.

Optimists in Madrid [illegible] that M Mitterrand [illegible] stood that France cannot stand alone among the [illegible] over Spain's membership of the EEC, and that he has come round to the position taken by Chancellor Kohl. The West German leader wants entry negotiations with Spain and Portugal to run parallel with those among existing member states to resolve the Community's [illegible].

[illegible] optimism [illegible] concluding [illegible] outstanding [illegible] agreement [illegible] 30.

But even the optimists believe France will negotiate with the greatest toughness to secure maximum protection for its farmers against Spain.

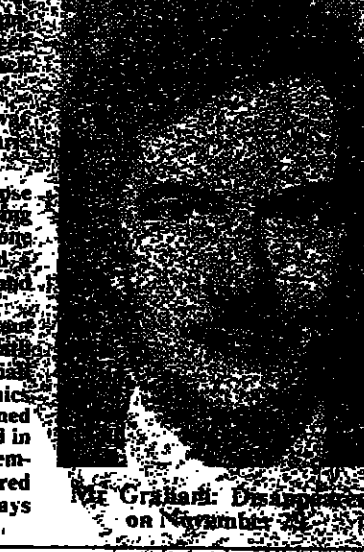
Briton's body in Seine

Paris (Reuter) – The body of the missing British [illegible] Robert Graham, has been found in the Seine, French police said yesterday.

Mr Graham, aged 27, was reported missing from his Paris hotel on November 29.

Identification of the corpse was difficult, but it was wearing a wrist-watch identical to one owned by Mr Graham and a card from his hotel was found in the clothes.

Police were trying to find out whether Mr Graham's death was linked to that of Niall Campbell, an ICI economics expert who was found drowned near a French Navy shipyard in Brest, in Brittany, on December 2. He had also disappeared from his Paris hotel a few days earlier.



Mr Graham: Disappeared on November 29

Italy shows mercy to ill Bulgarian

From Peter Nichols
Rome

Investigators into the alleged Bulgarian connexion with the May 1982, attempt here on the Pope's life have agreed to allow Mr Sergei Ivanov Antonov to leave prison while, remaining under house arrest, on the ground of ill-health.

Mr Antonov was arrested in November, 1982, and has been in Rome's Rebibbia Prison without trial while the investigation proceeded.

At the time of his arrest he worked in the Rome office of the Bulgarian airline. He has been examined by Italian and Bulgarian doctors, on several occasions. An examination at the weekend showed him to have lost 22lb and be suffering from psychic disturbances as well as gastric problems. For some time he has shown signs of deep depression.

The Bulgarian Embassy has undertaken to see that Mr Antonov will not try to leave the country.

He was arrested after Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turkish terrorist who shot and nearly killed the Pope, had named his as one of his fellow-conspirators. No decision has yet been taken on whether Mr Antonov should be charged formally and sent for trail.

His release means he will not be at Rebibbia on December 27, when the Pope visits the prison. The Pope intends to have a private talk with Ali Agca during the visit.

On Tuesday the Pope received a group of prison chaplains and talked to them over lunch about the Italian prison system, as preparation for his Rebibbia bisit. He is understood to have expressed amazement at the length of time the prisoners could be held while awaiting trail.

He apparently wanted to know details about the way Ali Agca, who is serving a life sentence, was being treated in his special isolation cell.



The Bulgarian connexion: Mr Antonov at the time of his arrest in November last year

Turkey arrests two foreigners for car bombing

From Our Correspondent
Ankara

A Syrian and an Iranian have been arrested in connexion with the explosion of a booby-trapped car here yesterday, Mr Turgut Ozal, the Prime Minister, confirmed.

It was not clear, however, whether the unidentified suspects were also charged with responsibility or for rigging another car with explosives in Izmir last Monday.

The Ankara blast exploded in the residential district of Bahcelievlet, where several senior politicians live.

At about the same time as the Ankara blast, two gunmen threw a bomb near the Iraqi Consulate in the Besiktas district of Istanbul, injuring four people.

The bombings came after an announcement on Tuesday nitght by the martial law authorities, of the discovery of a bomb in a car parked between the American Officers' Club and the French Cultural Institute at the Aegean port of Izmir. It was defused.

US still gives most to Harare despite aid cut

From Our Correspondent
Harare

The United States will probably continue to be Zimbabwe's biggest aid contributor through 1984, despite the recent cut, diplomatic sources said.

State Department officials announced on Tuesday that the aid programme would be sliced in half to about $40m (£26m). They denied the move resulted from political squabbles with Zimbabwe, though the list of areas of concern has been growing for several months.

The Reagan Administration is known to have been angered by Harare's condemnation of the Grenada invasion and abstention from a United Nations vote to condemn the Soviet Union for shooting down the South Korean airliner. Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, has accused America and Britain of trying to meddle in his country's internal affairs. Diplomats, however, say there have been no threats to use aid in a carrot and stick fashion.

A Zimbabwean Government spokesman yesterday said there would be no reaction to the aid cut until there had been more time to assess it. Even at its reduced level, total US aid since independence will reach $274m by the end of 1984, still ahead of Britain, which has so far committed £115m.

Flying in the [illegible] Zimbabwe's [illegible]

From Our Own Correspondent [illegible]

The curious relationship [illegible] South Africa has with many of its black-ruled neighbours has [illegible] illustrated by the [illegible] Harare Airport in Zimbabwe last Sunday when a South African Airways (SAA) plane was "hidden" behind a hangar so as not to affront the gaze of black African leaders arriving for a summit.

According to the passengers, a Boeing 737 on the [illegible] Sunday flight from Johannesburg [illegible] was not allowed to taxi to the main terminal building for disembarkation [illegible] out of sight behind the hangar for two hours while other aircraft flew in [illegible] the Frontline [illegible] Central African [illegible] [illegible] passengers were confined on board and some became unwell because of the lack of power to operate the air-conditioning. Mr Leon Els, a public relations officer for SAA in Johannesberg, yesterday conceded there had been a delay in disembarking, but said it had lasted only 65 minutes. He claimed it was standard practice in African countries to give preference to VIP flights.

One of the passengers said however, that the captain of the SAA jet had disclosed that he

[illegible] wer [illegible] outh [illegible] seen [illegible] ican [illegible] g if [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] hich [illegible] k, is [illegible] ican [illegible] frica [illegible] vice. [illegible] itius [illegible] s to [illegible] con- [illegible] vely [illegible] rast, [illegible] con- [illegible] is [illegible] the [illegible] ch it [illegible] political contacts. Among those arriving at Harare last Sunday was President Kaunda of Zambia, whom the Zimbabweans criticized last year for meeting Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister.

Because of the general hostility to Pretoria, SAA is not permitted even to overfly, let alone land, in the vast majority of African States. As a result, the flights to London have to go round the western leg of Africa over the Atlantic.

Black Africa [illegible]

[illegible]

Former Korean minister may get 10 years

Seoul (AP)–The prosecution yesterday demanded a 10-year sentence for Mr Yoon Ja Jdong, the former Transport Minister, and terms ranging from one to 15 years for 21 other defendants in a trial arising from one of Korea's biggest bank scandals.

Mr Yoon, a retired air force chief of staff, was accused of receiving 81.8m won (£70,000) in bribes from co-defendant, Mr Kim Chul Ho, a leisure industry tycoon, in return for favours.

The prosecution asked that Mr Kim be jailed for 15 years on various charges.

Mr Yoon was the first former Cabinet member from President Chun Doo Hwan's government to be indicted on criminal charges.

Moscow fears bloody Afghan anniversary

By David Cross

The Soviet and Afghan authorities in Kabul are steeling themselves for what they fear may be a spectacular demonstration of guerrilla firepower to coincide with next week's fourth anniversary of the Russian invasion.

USSR
Panjshir Valley
Qarabagh
Kabul
Jalalabad
AFGHANISTAN
IRAN
Kandahar
PAKISTAN
50 miles

According to well-informed Western diplomatic sources, the capital has been uncannily quiet during December. This contrasts sharply with the situation in recent months when the mujahidin staged frequent attacks, often with mortars and rockets, on targets like the Soviet Embassy, Radio Afghanistan and troop headquarters.

The sources believe the rebel fighters may be using the lull to infiltrate the city, ready for a big military operation to mark next Tuesday's anniversary. There have been several reports to this effect, the sources say.

In response, the authorities have tightened already stringent security precautions throughout the city. Road-blocks have been set up in key areas to search cars and buses and check the identity papers of pedestrians.

Outside Kabul, resistance by the rebels has also been intermittent in the past month. The last notable clash with Soviet forces was on December 16 in the southern [illegible] of Qarabagh, which reportedly resulted in the death of [illegible] Russian soldiers and the destruction of three armoured vehicles.

In Gulbahar at the mouth of the Panjshir valley, a high-ranking Soviet officer and two soldiers, captured at the beginning of the month, are allegedly being held by insurgents. The rebels are negotiating with the authorities for their release in exchange for five people arrested in 1982 for attempting to hijack a plane from Kandahar to Quetta.

In mid-December, according to Western sources, there were reports of heavy fighting in the Jalalabad area. A huge convoy of tanks and armoured patrol cars and lorries were seen leaving Kabul for the provincial [illegible] on December 12.

The local official newspaper [illegible] has appeared with a large photograph of a peaceful street scene in Jalalbad purporting to show that life is normal. On past experience, this is a sure sign that guerrilla resistance has intensified.

In short, the souces say, the fourth year of the occupation has reinforced earlier Western assessments of a long-standing military stalemate, with the Russians unable to crush resistance and the mujahidin unable to force a withdrawal.

هكذا من الأصل

A bumpy ride to fantasy

The Times Profile
Roald Dahl

Roald Dahl told me that what made him a writer was a most monumental bash on the head ("we had been delving for literary sources"). Before that he had been a square young businessman working for Shell, "going around with a furled umbrella, wearing a hat and things". But then came the rude conversion.

There was a silence in his sunny, low-ceilinged Buckinghamshire farmhouse while I digested this tale of the unexpected. One clock went tock-tic, tock-tic with the deliberate malicious advance of one of the characters in his adult stories about to brain someone with a frozen leg of lamb, or inexorably swelling with treacherous geniality into a loathsome human bee. But another clock went tickety-skippety, tick-toc, tick-toc like James whooping it up on The Giant Peach or Charlie skipping about the Chocolate factory.

For more han 30 years a renowned author of macabre short stories – *Kiss Kiss, Some Like You* – Dahl is now also one of the world's leading writers of children's books. *The Giant Peach* had a successful run as an opera at Covent Garden; *The Chocolate Factory* was made into a film with Gene Wilder, and two more, *Danny the Champion of the World* and *The BFG*, will go into production soon.

His latest book, *The Witches*, was published recently. It blows the whistle on modern witches who look just like your schoolteacher or respectable aunt, but secretly they are bald, their spit is blue as bilberry, and to the little boys smell of dogs' droppings, *fresh* dogs droppings.

Could such a persistently fertile imagination have been induced just by a bash on the head?

Oh, yes, he said. He had been in the RAF, in the war flying out of Libya in a Gloster Gladiator and it had hit the ground at 200mph, bashing his head off the reflector sight and flattening his nose. Having until then produced only dogged schoolboy letters, his first letter home from hospital was brilliant. He was a writer. A squashed one, but a writer.

Dahl is a very tall man with some of the stooping, anxious courtesy of Alastair Sim playing a children's author, and much of the casual authority of the officer class.

Now 67, Dahl's life parallels in a curious way two strands of his fiction. It was full of adventure and scrumptious surprises: a 15-page children's story, *The Gremlins* (he invented the word), published in 1942 while he was a young air attaché in Washington, was such an astonishing success that he became frequent guest of Eleanor Roosevelt and FDR at the White House. This useful entrée was exploited by the boys at Whitehall who made him a spy – on the Americans. And he married a film star, Patricia Neal.

But his life also suffered blows from a particularly malicious fate.

His seven-year-old daughter contracted a rare form of measles and died. His young son was hit by a taxi in New York and suffered brain damage, and the story of Dahl's long struggle to help Patricia Neal recover from two massive strokes is well known. He's had many operations on his spine, a legacy of his plane crash.



Dahl pensive: "The real stylistic influence was Hemingway." Photgraphs by Suresh Karadia

Fantasy is very different from fiction

Storytellers are proud and rather defensive craftsmen. Says Dahl: "Novelists write from personal experience which they then just fictionalize, all of them, without any question! But we are talking about fantasy, which is very different from fiction." Children's storywriters, perhaps mindful of the severity of their shrill-voiced clients, would not like to admit to any inellectuality. So a blow on the head is a more satisfactory literary source than Belloc, which did influence him.

And Ambrose Bierce. The first adult book that gave him the creeps was *Can Such Things Be?* "Quite a good title," Dahl said, with envious approval.

"The real stylistic influence was Hemingway," Dahl said. "The short sentence, use of adjectives. I knew Hemingway well.

"The great maxim he gave me was 'When you are going good, stop writing'. Terrific, because then you can pick up again. Old Hemingway gave me that advice and said it was his invention and I told it to Henry Moore who doesn't live far from here, in Hertfordshire, and I said this must be the same with your work when you are going good, chipping away at whatever. 'Exactly" he said. 'But it wasn't Hemingway,' he said, 'I've got the book by my bed'. So the old boy went up to his bedroom, upstairs two at a time and brought down *Conversations with Goethe*. Goethe had said the same thing!"

He smiled at the notion that this trade secret was shared by so many disciplines and generations.

"I don't know where my ideas come from. Perhaps my Norwegian background is an influence. Plots just wander into my head. They are like dreams, one is terrified of losing them. Once I stopped the car and got out and wrote a word or two on the dust of the boot lid so I wouldn't forget an idea."

He spoke of the difficulty of writing children's stories, of getting it right.

"My theory," Dahl said, "is that by the time a person becomes skilful enough at his writing trade he is usually in his 30s and really has forgotten what it's like to be a child. He has lost touch with it even if he had got children of his own".

How did you manage to keep contact?

"Oh I'm a bit of a jokey fellow you know, childish on one side of me."

The characters in Dahl's adult stories are vengeful creatures, generally scoring over the other moral lepers. In one, *"Pig"*, an innocent young man, a lapsed vegetarian, is slit up for sausage meat.

"That is an odd story," he remarked, almost as if he had not written it himself. "It's an anti-human being story."

Unlike children's stories which are full of exuberance and optimism, is Dahl expressing a kind of disgust with adults?

"I think you can't help that after a time. Unless you are doing a P. G. Wodehouse. There is an enormous difference between a child who is primarily innocent and an adult who has become venal and greedy and everything else. You know as well as I that most adults are not very likeable people. I mean, Christ, we wouldn't have six wars going on right now if they were. They are *not* likeable people."

This brought us to the new field entered by Dahl recently with catastrophic results; political controversy. Asked in August to review *God Cried*, an account of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, for the *Literary Review*, he plunged into a headlong attack on all Israelis, and to many it appeared an attack on Jews.

'Shove them all in the dock with handcuffs'

Dahl still gets abusive telephone calls. School librarians have written to say they have taken his books off their shelves, and he showed me a letter from a Leeds councillor who had sent back his child's copy of *The Enormous Crocodile*.

A close inspection of Dahl's review, entitled "Not a Chivalrous Affair", reveals a curious stylistic affinity with his children's stories. It is in fact a tale of a chivalrous young airman – Dahl himself – flying over Lebanon and allowing young ladies in white dresses down below, drinking wine with their pilot boy friends, to run for cover before straffing the enemy airfield. Then when the Israelis plunge, without chilvary, into this same territory 40 years later they must be routed like the witches. Exuberantly! Indiscriminately!

"Shove them all in the dock with handcuffs on! You will become violently anti-Israeli when you read *God Cried*. You simply won't be able to help yourself", he wrote.

Dahl, the fiction and the fantasy writer, had refused to observe the conventions of international political debate.

Why not? "I don't care about them. You don't do things by halves."

He said he was "cross and angry" that people should accuse him of anti-Semitism. "I am not in the least anti-Semitic. And there is nothing racialist in my books."

But didn't he appear to be inviting the Arab nations to rise up and annihilate Israel?

"I should have said that the Israeli Labour Party was violently against this, and given them credit for it. But it was written so fast and so emotionally. But that's beside the point. The fact remains that there were about 24,000 people, mostly civilians, killed in that war. I am angry that you cannot protest against this kind of thing without being called anti-Semitic."

He pointed out that his story *Genesis and Catastrophe*" was "a cry from the heart" at the bitter irony that in the Schiklgrüber family Adolf was the one male child who did survive.

He has now turned to less explosive matters: he is working on sketches of his schooldays.

Peter Lennon

The Witches *is published by Jonathan Cape at £6.50.*

Nothing but the tocking of the clock to interrupt the muse

Alan Franks discovers how the admen tune in to your wallet

Jingling all the way to the bank

In the beginning was the carol, which begat the jingle, which begat colossal revenue for the manufacturers of cigarette lighters and Cyprus sherry. If that is a simplistic, not to say profane, version of how the season's advertising melodies came into being, remember that carolling is in essence the selling of a message, and some of the most enduring of the species are those with what is nowadays called a good hook. That may not be a phrase which would have sat easily in the vocabulary of a Stanford or a Holst, but the impulse to wrap an idea in a cadence was there none the less.

Whether you are celebrating the nativity, or a more tangible form of consumer durable, tunes are a vital ally. Small wonder then that the airtime occupied by jingles on television and radio increases by up to 20 per cent at this time of year. Contrary to popular opinion, the writing of these mini-numbers – few top the 40-second mark – is not so much a licence to print money as a punishing exercise in compliance with the demands of hi-tech production.



One of our leading jinglers, Richard Harvey, who has done much for the image of a certain tender-fresh coconut confection in a rich chocolate coating, describes the collaborative process like this: "Mostly the writers get copy from the advertising agency and say it's a load of rubbish which should be rewritten to scan. Then the agency says it must have all these words in because that's what they've agreed with the client. And after that, a fight tends to occur."

The fight is usually fierce and furious; the client's unwieldy package of key selling words versus the composer's already dented self-respect. It is deep in the heart of these brawls that the reason can be found for the relentless duplication of jingles. It is not that the composers are second-rate hacks incapable of invention – quite the reverse – but that there is just half a minute in which to set a nearly uniform number of words to music; hence the repetition of shape and tempo.

Knowing that George Martin, whose arrangements gave the Beatles such sophistication, has a *few* skeletons jingling in his musical cupboard, I asked him what it took to succeed in the form. "It's all a question of using a tiny number of notes for their most immediate impact," he said.

And then he started humming: "Murraymints, Murraymints, too good to hurry-mints . . . that for me remains the best of all time. Yes I know, I'm rather old. It was written by a chap called Johnny Johnson, who's even older than me." Then I hummed: "Why make haste when you can taste the hint of mint in Murraymints," and he said, "There you are. See how it stays in the memory."

I had to put the heretical question – whether Paul McCartney, his most famous protégé, was now or had ever been a member of the jingle-writing fraternity. "No", came the reply, "but he could unquestionaby write them if he wanted to." Martin was too loyal to suggest that in fact many of Paul's hit records sound like glorified jingles, but a strong case could be made for the comparison. It proves the point that there is a bond between the jingle and the single, with the difference that the former is harder to bring off because of the intense compression demanded: theme, middle eight, reprise, all within a sixth of the compass of a standard 45 release.

Fourteen years ago, Martin and an American asssociate started a jingle agency called Air Edel, which now has a select band of 14 composers on its books, with dozens more ringing up every week, asking to be taken on. Maggie Garard, the managing director, boasts that, between them, the members of the team can come up with almost any style, from punk (for a certain bank that likes to say yes) through to light classical (for a sound system manufacturer with show-jumping connexions) and *vox humana* (for a chocolate bar with bubbles in it).

In an industry which has seen nothing but growth from the first days of commercial TV, it sounds as though there should be rich pickings for the composers, but earnings can be little more than peanuts in the jingle. On a flat rate basis, the writers can expect from £500 for a single tune to about £5,000 for a series. As Maggie Garard points out, you cannot forecast the catchiness of a jingle until it is launched.

At this point she too started humming: "Cook, cook, cookability, that's the beauty of gas . . . that's a very good example of one that turned into a long-runner. It started as a Middle of the Road arrangement, then we had the Suzy Quatro version, and now the Vivaldi. All the same tune."

One thing for which the jingle receives scant credit is its influence on "legit" pop: this sector borrows hooks and learns techniques from its mini-cousins in much the same way that the film industry benefits from commercials.

In some instances the jingle can even burst from the chrysalis and become a hit in its own right, the most famous example being Roger Greenaway's "I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing," which started life as a hymn to the merits of an American fizzy drink with world sales.

The form can also be splendid training ground for composers of more substantial music. Howard Blake, whose excellent album for children, *The Snowman*, has just been released, will not thank me for reminding him, but there is a certain light ale for whose popularity his music must take much credit. I can only hope he is so hard at work on an oratorio for Placido Domingo and the New York Philharmonic that he will not be reading this.

moreover... Miles Kington

Gripping yarns on TV

In 1980 the BBC dipped into its pocket with reckless abandon and sent seven journalists across the globe to make *Great Railway Journeys*. I landed up in Peru, where I spent a lot of my time thinking that the behind-the-scenes drama of making a TV film was better value than what got on the screen. Brian Thompson landed up in India, where he must have had exactly the same notion as he chugged up and down the sub-continent, because he has now written a play called *Turning Over* which is all about a film crew and a presenter who are sent out to India to make a programme.

It's currently on at the Bush Theatre, very funny, very well acted, etc (which I can safely say as I have never met Mr Thompson). But the curious thing is that the day after I saw it, I flew out to Jordan for four days with a BBC film crew and spent most of the time wondering if I was in real life, television or a Brian Thompson play. I wasn't really *with* a film crew, I suppose, but following one; I've become involved with a programme about the making of the latest David Attenborough natural history epic, and the Attenborough outfit were on their very last foreign location trip after three years of rushing about.

No wild life was involved, oddly enough. They wanted to film the earliest settlement of man they could find. There were *four* possible candidates as sites: two in Iraq and Iran and thus too dangerous, one in Turkey but totally unphotogenic and one in Jordan. The trouble with the Jordan one was that nobody knew much about it except its name, Beidha, and the name of the woman who discovered it in 1956 and excavated it, Diana Kirkbride. Was it worth going out to film? The producer's answer to the problem, which would never have occurred to me, ws to ring up Diana Kirkbride and ask her: it is worth filming?

The answer was a massive Yes, so much so that he promptly decided to ask her out as well. And that is how she and I came to be standing side by side in a rocky valley in the Jordanian desert last Tuesday, watching David Attenborough squat in the 9,000 year-old ruins.

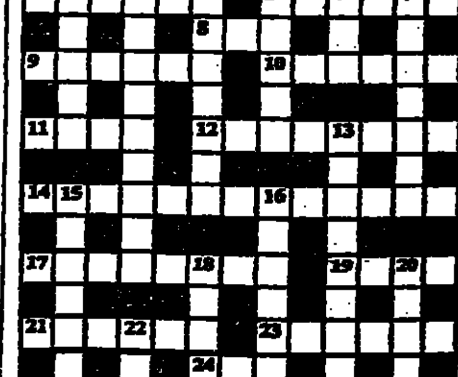
"These neolithic men", he told the camera, "found that instead of wandering in search of crops, they could keep the seeds and scatter them on the ground to grow next year. They had turned from being nomads into farmers . . ."

"Hold it", said Dicky, the sound man. "We're getting birds."

You wouldn't think you could get sound pollution in the desert, but there above us, high over the cliffs, wheeled four or five ravens making harsh black noises. We shouted at them to go away. We told them we were the BBC and ordered them to shut up. We threatened them with David Bellamy. It was then the Diana Kirkbride turned to me and said: "I don't know anything about television, but it does seem odd that wildlife can be such a nuisance to people making a wildlife film."

Odd is not the word. The only reason I was there was that I was making a TV programme *about* the making of a TV programme. The only reason that nobody has heard of Beidha is that Diana Kirkbride does not seek publicity – in other words, nobody has ever made a TV programme about it, or her. The only reason we didn't continue filming when the ravens finally flew off is that the Bedouins' sheep and cockerels than started making a noise – there was a Bedouin encampment right behind the archaelogical site, with herds of goats coming and going like commuter trains. The Bedouins represented a far more ancient way of life than the one we had come to film, but we were not there to film them or ravens or Diana Kirkbride, so we didn't. Given the chance, I think I'd film Diana, especially after I overheard her say: "Cole Porter came to see us when we were excavating Petra, and we got him up the cliff but we couldn't get him down again. Wheelchairs are very tricky on cliffs."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 230)



ACROSS
1 Crucial moment (6)
5 Systematic plan (6)
8 Muscle twitch (3)
9 Hinder (6)
10 Archimedes exclamation (6)
11 Dressage circle (4)
12 Headlong rush (8)
14 Unseen power broker (8.5)
17 Naked (8)
19 Test (4)
21 Loves deeply (6)
23 Nutty chew (6)
24 Curved shape (3)
25 Fashionable (6)
26 Early Stone Age tool (6)

DOWN
2 Ardent lover (5)
3 Bribe (9)
4 Spouse's earlier boy (7)
5 Operatic solo (5)
6 Not him (3)
7 Japanese emperors (7)
13 Ceaseless (9)
15 Bullfighter (7)
16 Fundamental nature (7)
18 Literary composition (5)
20 Expect (5)
22 Sprint (3)

SOLUTION TO No 229
ACROSS: 1 Fodder 4 Patter 7 Nile 8 Lingerie 9 Defector 12 Men 15 Plinth 16 Egress 17 Ska 19 Algorism 24 Crevasse 25 Crop 26 Fallen 27 Dormer
DOWN: 1 Funk 2 Dolce vita 3 Relic 4 Panto 5 Trek 6 Elite 10 Extra 11 Roger 12 Maelstrom 13 Nose 14 Apes 18 Karma 20 Lysin 21 Oread 22 Evil 23 Spur

BOOKS

Fiona MacCarthy reviews the life of John Gray, possibly the model for Dorian Gray

The young decadent who saw the Catholic light

In the Dorian Mode
By Brocard Sewell
(Tabb House, Padstow, £18)

When in the year 2000 the neglected masterpieces of the past century are finally assembled, among them will be *Park*, John Gray's "fantastic story", a short and dreamlike novel of extraordinary brilliance, in which the hero, Dr Mungo Park, dies and reawakes and seems to find himself in an England of the future inhabited by a new race of black Catholics, who are technically tremendously sophisticated, while the rodent-like descendants of degenerate white Englishmen live underground in wonderfully excavated caverns. "A thoroughly weird business, typical of its author", wrote Eric Gill, *Park's* printer, in 1931. The true weirdness of John Gray, a Canon of the Catholic Church in Edinburgh, has still perhaps to be appreciated fully. But Brocard Sewell's *Life* is a very good beginning, a most fascinating story sympathetically told.

In the 1890s John Gray was a young decadent: a man of striking beauty, more boyish than his years; a poet writing "versicles" (the word is Ernest Dowson's) in the style of the French symbolists; a hanger-on of Wilde's, and possibly the model for the Dorian Gray of Oscar's novel. John Gray anyway made the most of the connexion, and signed his letters "Dorian" to Wilde and other friends. All the more surprising to find him, some years later, a parish priest in Edinburgh: no ordinary priest but a priest of an almost legendary decorum whose genuflexion at the words "Et incarnatus est" in the Creed was, agreed the experts, a lesson in reverence. Two Archbishops and the whole cathedral chapter of St Andrews and Edinburgh, with a hundred other priests and sorrowful parishioners, crowded into his church for the pontifical Requiem Mass in June 1934, when John Gray died.

Brocard Sewell describes well these two strange contrasted worlds. He is good on the shimmering equivocal literary London of the fin-de-siècle: the Café Royal society and the Uranian underworld in which John Gray once moved; the sophisticated friendships with such esoteric couples as Ricketts and Shannon (Ricketts bound Gray's poems, *Silverpoints*), and the – female – poets, aunt and niece, who lived in Reigate and who used the joint male pseudonym of Michael Field. And, surprisingly perhaps, the book is even better on the life which was in many ways complete repudiation of all this surface glitter: the tiring, dull routines of Gray's parish work in Edinburgh, visiting the sick, comforting the mourning, and by way of relaxation playing golf with future bishops at St Andrews, which he once said, surely in a moment of euphoria, "competes with Jerusalem as a place I would choose to end my days."

Dominating Gray's weird story, and the link between his lives – lives which at first sight have little meeting-point at all – is the dark, svelte, foreign figure of his life-long friend Raffalovich. Marc-André Raffalovich, a rich Russian Jew brought up in Paris in intellectual circles, a homosexual, the author of *Uranisme et Unisexualité*, was, like Gray himself, a convert to Catholicism. He followed Gray to Edinburgh in 1905 and established a régime of characteristically perfect taste and order in his house in Whitehouse Terrace, near Gray's Rectory in Morningside, a haven of culture in the Scotland of the time. His famous routine of Tuesday dinners, Sunday lunches, which Gray always attended, brought a touch of exoticism to those northern suburbs, with excellent grapes from Raffalovich's vine. Raffalovich's housekeeper, devoted Florence Gribbell, who when she was unable to sleep would compose menus, is another of the very congenial minor personae with which this finely-detailed book abounds.

Gray may or may not have been Raffalovich's lover (just as John was possibly but not quite definitely Dorian). Such conundrums, though in their way undoubtedly intriguing, end up by not appearing especially important. For what comes over strongly is a clear and moving sense of the enduring and indeed the redemptive possibilities of friendship quite apart from niceties of its sexual expression. The relationship between Raffalovich and Gray in its Edinburgh days was in fact extremely formal, a set exchange of visits beetween 9 Whitehouse Terrace and John Gray's study at the Rectory. Sunday night was Whitehouse Terrace night. A friend remembered later:

Most Sunday evenings after a cold supper the front door bell would ring, and a few moments later the parlourmaid would open the drawing-room door to announce: "Canon Gray".



John Gray circa 1892

A right to browse

Blackwell's 1879-1979
By A. L. F. Norrington
(Blackwell, £12.50)

Not all bookshops approve of browsing. But in Blackwell's of Oxford, it is a constitutional right, printed and posted on the wall. The rubric begins: "When you visit Blackwell's no one will ask what you want. You are free to ramble where you will; to handle any goods; in short, to browse at leisure. The staff are at your service when you need them; but unless you look to them, they will leave you undisturbed. You are equally welcome whether you come to buy or browse."

In my time at Oxford (just over 20 years ago) the undergraduate magazine *Mesopotamia*, a direct ancestor of *Private Eye* – Willie Rushton was its main cartoonist – printed a spoof advertisement headed "VASSILI'S". It showed Blackwell's quaint old building with women in cantilever bras and fishnet stockings lolling against the walls. It was obviously intended as a bordello. And the caption underneath was unchanged from Blackwell's normal advertisement. "When you visit Blackwell's, no one will ask what you want . . ."

The Right to Browse is one of the great benefits Blackwell's conferred on the Oxonian book-lover. The other was their wonderful clemency in the matter of presenting their bills. Benjamin Jowett of Balliol was already taking advantage of this in Victoria's reign: the folio *Diodorus Siculus* which he bought for 7s 6d in November 1879 was not paid for until March 1881. Sir John Betjeman recalls, of his leaving Oxford after failing in Divinity:

I wandeed into Blackwell's: where my bill
Was so enormous that it wasn't paid
Till ten years later, from the small estate
My father left.

Oddly, neither the wall rubric nor Sir John's reminiscence is included in Sir Arthur Norrington's history of the firm. But just about everything else is. It is a dry read, full of those tribute-paying passages to which such histories are prone. ("He was one of the kindliest, sweetest-natured and most cheerful of men, ready to turn a hand to any job. His neat handwriting was an example to everyone, and his maps, diagrams, and marginal drawings were used extensively in the production of Carter and Brentnall's Geography series *Man the World Over*.")

But it is a valuable contribution to the history of bookselling – and of publishing too. (Basil Blackwell launched the annual series *Oxford Poetry*; published Edith Sitwell's first three volumes of poems; the first of Wilfred Owen's poems to appear outside periodicals; Graham Greene's first book, *Babbling April* and Enoch Powell's *First Poems*.) The founder, Benjamin Henry Blackwell, opened his shop at 50 Broad Street in 1879. His first catalogue included Aldines and Baskervilles at 5s each, and a copy of Thomas Hall's *The Loathesomeness of Long Haire... with an Appendix against Painting. Spots. Naked Backs &c.* (Listed as VERY RARE, this was priced at 8s 6d).

Occasionally Sir Arthur Norrington rewards one for staying with his dour narrative, by a nice literary anecdote. We learn how Verlaine gave a lecture in Blackwell's, threading his way through *"un dédale de chambres regorgeant de livres"*; how the assistant Fred Chaundy was privileged to see Lewis Carroll bend down clad only in a "cutty-sark" shirt; and how Hilaire Belloc ended a row with Benjamin Henry by composing him a motto, *Sumite Castalios nigris de frontibus haustus* (From the *Black Wells* draw ye the Muses' draughts).

Bevis Hillier

Tales of Abbot's Ale

Greene King
By Richard G Wilson
(The Bodley Head & Cape, £10)

It is generally a bad sign when you are reviewing a book if you fall asleep with the volume open in your hands. I am sorry to say that this happened to me twice in the course of reading this sound account of the East Anglian brewers, Greene King by a lecturer in Economics and Social History at the local University. No, I had not been drinking "Abbot" or "IPA", two of the strongest ales made famous by this splendidly independent outfit; it was just that some of the finer points of malting, mashing, marketing and mergers expounded here failed to absorb me as I had hoped.

Nothing wrong, you understand, with the genre of company history (I once earned a crust editing a weighty study of a Lancashire paper mill), nor is this anything other than highly competent or scholarly, but its subtitle ("A Business and Family History") led me to expect rather more in the way of human interest. Presumably as an act of family piety, it has been brought out by two publishing houses associated with the Greene dynasty. Sir Hugh (chairman of the brewery 1971-78), whose biography was recently published by The Bodley Head, is certainly enjoying a good innings this season.

The Greenes, like their infinitely richer Irish counterparts the Guinnesses (with whom they are connected through Sir Hugh's first marriage), afford another example of the classic progression from business and money, to titles and land, and then activity in the arts. The brewery was founded at Bury St Edmunds in 1806 by a draper's son, Benjamin Greene who went on to become a slaveholder and a newspaper proprietor. One of Benjamin's sons became an able Governor of the Bank of England; another, who was the first chairman of Greene King (merged in 1887) became an MP and was the father of a landowning baronet fond of hunting, shooting, yachting and practical jokes. Benjamin's youngest son, a hopeless failure, was the grandfather of the great Graham who shared with his brother Hugh "a long held interest in sampling the beers of different breweries". GG is not the only novelist to be produced by the dynasty for Christopher Isherwood's maternal grandmother was a Greene.

In all fairness, Mr Wilson writes well about the various characters, not just Greenes, involved in the story – though as a Yorkshireman he cannot resist digs at "paternalism" – and has plenty to say about our changing drinking habits. The "business" side, however, is weighed down by technical details and statistics. One shares his relief when he chances on such items as the litigation over the overflowing urinal at the "Cock" in Castle Camps.

A worthwhile book? Up to a pint, Sir Hugh.

Hugh Montgomery-Massingberd

Getting id and ego right

Freud and Man's Soul
By Bruno Bettelheim
(Chatto & Windus, £6.95)

"Freud," wrote Thomas Mann "writes a highly perspicuous prose. He is an artist of thought, like Schopenhauer, and, like him, a European author." Bruno Bettelheim's brief, perspicuous and important book shows how Freud's English translators saw his work as "science" and played down its humanist, philosophical tradition. The Greek psyche is the German *Seele* which the English standard edition refers steadily to as "mental life". Freud, Betelheim suggests, "chose the term *(Seele) because of* its inexactitude, its emotional resonance."

Bettelheim gives several examples of words where James Strachey coined new Greek - or Latin - derived terms to represent words which in Freud come from current, colloquial German. The puzzling "cathexis" in German is simply *Besetzung* or "occupation". *Schoulust*, pleasure in looking, desire to see, becomes "scopophilia". "Parapraxis" translates a witty word made by Freud from two others, *Fehlleistung*, from *Fehl*, an error, *Leistung*, an achievement; a "mischievement" as Walter Kaufman suggested. The Greek words reify and distance descriptions of behaviour or feelings which in the German are still close to actor and observer, or patient and analyst.

Perhaps the most pervasive cultural influence of the translation has been the Latinizing of Freud's "three provinces of the apparatus of soul." In German these are *Ich, Es* and *Uber-ich*, rendered by Bettelheim *I, It* and *Above-I*, and by Strachey as *ego, id* and *superego*. Bettelheim objects to these last on both therapeutic and larger aesthetic grounds. In therapy, he says, people say, and should say, "I am trying to understand why I did this." *Not* "My ego is trying to understand why I did this."

In *Freud and the Future* Thomas Mann spoke of a Freud in the tradition of Goethe, Nietzsche, Schopenhauer. His formal, convoluted, complicated tribute plays on the word "I" or *Ich* throughout. He speaks of the "ancient I" *das antike Ich* of an Alexander, who was a God, of a Napoleon who said "I am Charlemagne". "Not", Mann repeats, "I resemble" or "I recall" but "Ich bin 's." Mann's peroration treats of what Freud has revealed to us ourselves, the nervous, isolated modern "I" and of how he saw his work of strengthening it as a cultural work, akin to the draining of the Zuyder Zee. "*Wo Es war soll Ich werden*" said Freud epigrammatically. "Where It was must I be." Mann's translator, bedevilled by Freud's changes of horses in midstream, talks distantly of the "modern ego", loses the whole resonance between the "I"s of Alexander, Napoleon, Mann himself, and Freud.

"Where id was let there be ego." A retranslation could not undo the years of thought, felicitous as well as infelicitous, conducted with the aid of these too solid imaginary objects. All the more do we need books like Bettelheim's to keep us alert and supple, to remind us of the complex nature of language and translation, culture and history, the limitations of their power, the power of their limitations.

A. S. Byatt



Madonna and Child by Andrea della Robbia in the Metropolitan Museum, New York, from Carols for Christmas, compiled and arranged by David Willcocks (Gollancz, £9.95).

Grove for the home

The New Oxford Companion to Music
Edited by Denis Arnold
(Oxford, £50)

The New Oxford Companion to Music, a refurbished version of Percy A. Scholes's original work, has to be *Grove* for the Home. At £50, or £37.50 if you nip in and buy it before the end of January, instead of £1,100 it is markedly cheaper. And it does take up rather less shelf room: two volumes, admittedly weighty ones, instead of twenty. Quite a lot of the contributors are shared, a mixture of critics whose names are familiar in the Dailies and Sundays and academics who are careful to confine themselves to learned journals.

Certainly the new OCM *looks* good. Professor Arnold has scoured the picture libraries, or perhaps his assistants have: whether you turn up Carter, Elliott, or Chalumeau the illustration will not be the obvious one. The individual entries, though, show rather less flair. Solidity not controversy is the order of the day, and a very English solidity at that.

Inevitably there is a temptation to check out one's special interests first and the opera sections are not among the best in the OCM. There is, for instance, no clear editorial line on providing synopses for standard works. *Il trovatore* and *Les Troyens*, on tasting T, each get a scene by scene outline of the plot while *Otello*, arguably the greatest of Italian operas, is dismissed in ten lines with the comment, ". . . the opera follows Shakespeare closely, although the Venetian first act is omitted."

Librettists receive an even rougher deal. There may be a case, although I would not care to argue it, for leaving out Piave or Meilhac, but to omit Da Ponte, Lorenzo, is inexcusable. What would Mozart have done without him? On the other hand anyone curious to know what Johnny Jingling had to do with Turkish music will find enlightenment. You cannot please all the people all the time. And at £37.50 the OCM is almost exactly the price of a single ticket to Covent Garden's *Otello* – ". . . also an opera by Rossini (1816)," in case you did not know.

John Higgins

Pevsner of the elm

Elm
By R.H. Richens
(Cambridge, £35)

Elm. Just like that. Not even a definite article, let alone a subtitle, and only the briefest of publisher's blurbs, as though this were not the sort of book that anyone could be seriously expected to buy.

Well admittedly £35 is a lot of money, even these days. But this is no ordinary book. It is a work of immense scholarship, the product of years of devoted research, and yet, even for the reader who knows little or nothing about trees, much of it is not just readable but fascinating.

The oak, the ash and, until its recent tragic near-obliteration by disease, the elm have for centuries dominated the English rural landscape. Of this great trio the elm has been perhaps the most loved and the most frequently serenaded. As Mr Richens remarks, to identify with the English landscape has often meant to identify with an English elmscape.

But unlike the oak and the ash, the elm is not a native species. Correction. The Wych Elm, which flourishes mainly in northern England and on the Welsh borders, made its own way here sometime in the aftermath of the last Ice Age. The more familiar Field Elm, of which there are many varieties, was brought here and planted either for decorative purposes or because of its splendid versatility as a raw material.

Since then, as this book reminds us, it has become absorbed not just into our landscape but into our history, art, literature, and even diet and medicine. Mr Richens is an admirably eclectic chronicler.

He has been fortunate, if that is the word, in his timing since, when he first began assembling material some 30 years ago, he could not have foreseen that the elm would become an object of national concern and lament. Indeed he makes no more than passing reference to Dutch Elm Disease, observing that to have included it in detail would have seriously unbalanced the book.

To call it the last word on the elm might be misconstrued. But surely all that will now be needed is either an epitaph to record its final demise or a chapter recording how it was helped to survive, as Mr Richens believes there is a reasonable chance it will.

John Young

Another great game

A Hitch or Two in Afghanistan
By Nigel Ryan
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £8.95)

In August 1982 Sandy Gall, known to TV-watchers, invited camera man Charles Morgan, sound engineer Tom Murphy and Nigel Ryan author of this book, to lunch at Bertorelli's in Charlotte Street (what a lot of plots have been hatched in Bert's) to discuss an expedition to film Ahmed Shah Massud, a young resistance leader and his Mujahideen operating against the Russians in the Panjsher valley, north-east of Kabul in Afghanistan. Ryan, who has considerable experience in presenting TV news was preparing to write a book about it, and knows his Kipling and Edward Lear, and was to produce a film and act as Quartermaster and Paymaster of the expedition. He wrote the specification – Sandy Gall asked for black underwear to show up the lice – and negotiated the budget with Central TV for something like £60,000.

Sandy Gall's method of leadership was to be supremely confident and optimistic at all times. The expedition was to leave in three weeks.

Part of the agreement with the Mujahideen leaders was that the expedition should be responsible for hiring transport and horses, while food would be supplied by the Resistance. What was apparently not appreciated was that Mujahideen were hard as nails and normally half-starved, living mainly on yoghurt, rice and sweet tea with a little goat thrown in from time to time.

The planning had to be secret because the expedition would have to make an unauthorized crossing of the Pakistan frontier. They chose as cover story the making of a tourist film about Swat, but this was blown when Gall was recognized in the plane by a man who proved to be none other than the Ruler of Swat. From then on there were snags of every description and at every turn. An unexpected ten-day foot-slog across a desert was one of them. Some TV crews may be commando trained, Ryan was not. Sandy Gall radiated confidence, but very soon they were all hungry, in spite of supplementary raisins and soup-mix.

This is a thoroughly readable, sometimes amusing and sad, but wholly absorbing story. Once or twice it's pace slackens – in point of physical progress it was always dead slow and Ryan was invariably last in the convoy, using his horse's tail as a ski-lift until spotted and scolded by the Mujahideen horsemaster.

In a book of 210 pages the party did not make contact with Massud until page 100, by which time they had lost all their TV equipment. Sandy Gall remained confident that all would be well. Finally even he gave up hope; and I must say that I did too; and then the equipment miraculously appeared. Three of four weeks filming time had gone, but they made their film, saw some action and were bombed. Then they had to get back over the mountains and that was another hungry story, exacerbated by frayed tempers and a desperate shortage of cash.

The book deserves an index.

Gontran Goulden

Fiction

Bits of the best of British fiction of the year

A Christmas Feast
Edited by James Hale
(Macmillan, £8.95)

This Christmas fare, prepared by Macmillan to replace its long-standing *Winter's Tales*, has all the fascination of a free pack of quality goodies. Although there are still some excellent short stories, the bulk of the book is composed of chapters taken from novels which the editor takes to be the Best of British for the year. No-one will have read them *all* (except I must suppose, those poor, exhausted Booker judges). So at the very least it's an excellent way of discovering what you've missed.

The piece from Russell Hoban's *Pilgermann* amused me enough to send me out for the book. (I wish I could say it was on sale at my local bookshop, but no.) So all I can report is that a peculiarly unfortunate victim of a pogrom is calling on God for help, and is astonished to receive a vision of Christ instead. It's no use Pilgermann insisting that up till this point he had always dealt directly with His Father, or complaining "You're not the one I was calling." Christ replies: "I am the one who came though."

Another book I hadn't read and feel I now will is William Cooper's *Scenes from Later Life*. The title recalls Cooper's earliest work, which must surely have influenced both Amis and Wain, but whose own reputation has trailed a little. This piece about the awkwardness between a middle-aged son and his 92-year-old mother in hospital, is written with warmth and pain as well as a sense of human absurdity.

There were other intriguing snippets. I have been intending for some time to read Anita Brookner's *Look at Me* and was impressed by the cruel accuracy of her perceptions. The extract lets us in on a married couple, who invite a friend with them on holiday, mainly to demonstrate the perfection of their marriage, and hoping, at any rate, that a beggar at the feast will confirm they are indeed better off together.

Then, of course, there were the novels already admired, and now looked at mainly to question the editor on the justness of his extraction. It seemed to me that I, too, might have gone for the interview with the formidably casual British Council lady in Malcolm Bradbury's *Rates of Exchange*, and probably stranded the hapless Petworth, unmet, in the land of COSMOPLOT. The piece from Rushdie's *Shame* read magnificently. I was also pleased to recall what a very good book Maggie Ross's *Milena* had been.

Among the short stories, Muriel Spark's "Fortune Teller" is unbeatable; an old witch at her tricks again, she evokes exactly the right mixture of unease and laughter. Fay Weldon is probably better than anyone at portraying the precarious togetherness of family Christmas. How can an efficient woman not take her husband's gives seriously?

In the nature of the game, there were books not there that ought to have been. The editor had not had the prescence to look out Coetzee. And, perhaps because I've just been reading it with delight, I particularly missed John Fuller's *Flying to Nowhere*. But there might surely also have been some Alan Sillitoe, or Emma Tennant? By and large, though, a pleasantly digestible Christmas Feast.

Elaine Feinstein

Into the landscape of the dead

Falls the Shadow
By Emanuel Litvinoff
(Michael Joseph, £8.95)

Kingsley Amis is on record recently as declaring he would no longer read any novel in which a gunshot did not ring out in the very first paragraph. Some surprises would await him in this one. The body that slumps dead over the first page of Emanuel Litvinoff's latest novel leads the reader into labyrinth of shadows, the darkness of which is the shadow upon which the State of Israel has uneasily founded itself. Shomron, the laconic, Israeli detective has no difficulty in discovering the assassin Sinclar. Apparently English, he is only too eager to declare himself. What becomes worrying is the motive that leads him to anticipate his own trial with such joy:

Shomron, is a Sabra, proud to throw off the anxious stance of the ghetto Jew, and his family troubles, including those of his brother-in-law, concern him as much as the case he is handling. Until, that is, Mossad takes a hand in his investigations; and we are taken into a world, as alien as another planet, which tattooed both the victim and his assassin with the numbers of Dachau. So it is we enter a landscape of the dead, peopled by ghosts who may yet be alive; and listen in on the madness and the morality of choices we have all been spared. This is a remarkable novel; incisive, always questioning; and never, for one moment, dull.

Elaine Feinstein



THE TIMES DIARY

Who needs enemies?

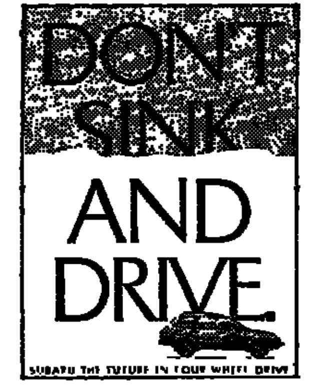
One of the last letters written by Tony Banks, the Labour MP for Newham, North West, before he resigned as chairman of the GLC's Arts and Recreation Committee was to George Levy, chairman of the Friends of Kenwood – the historic house near Hampstead Heath. In it, Banks takes a stern tone towards the Friends' efforts to persuade the Government to set up an independent trust for Kenwood. "I understand, of course, that the Friends of Kenwood will have a greater concern for Kenwood than for any other cause. But if their concern for Kenwood is so limited and so exclusive, does Kenwood need such friends? Do we, in our private lives, relish friends who will be friends to no one but ourselves? Such friends are too cautious to defend, or even attack, another than their chosen object of devotion. Their affection and dedication are real enough, but are they welcome?" He then goes on to quote the passage from Donne's *Devotions* that begins, "No man is an Island . . ." Mr Levy remained calm under the weight of so many admonishments. He wrote back: "It is . . . our particular concern to look after the interests of Kenwood and its magnificent grounds, and in this regard it would be most helpful if Members of Parliament could find time to write constructive letters of help, rather than find fault with those of us who do unpaid work for the community."

Late post

Yesterday, London's chief post office by St Paul's Cathedral, three of the four clocks were showing the wrong time. The clocks are more than a century old and because the post office is a listed building, cannot be replaced by newer models. In spite of the building's anitiquity, a television set showing Post Office commercials has been installed on the serving floor. This was functioning perfectly.

Fluid drive

Subaru, the Japanese car company, has recently been running an advertisement advising readers, "Don't sink and drive". Last week one of its salesmen, Peter Danby-Smith, had to abandon his Subaru after it failed to negotiate a flooded ford in Yorkshire. It was washed downstream till it became stuck



under a bridge. After it had been dislodged by a tractor and a breakdown wagon, Mr Danby-Smith found a rainbow trout on the driving seat. "But it wasn't much of a consolation", he says.

Mass appeal

Andrew Palmer, head of the Foreign Office department which deals with the Falkland Islands and Britain's relations with Argentina, provided an end-of-term treat for his junior staff which was both entertaining and educational – he took a party of 24 to see *Evita*. Palmer and his deputy, Roger Westbrook, had found, as the Argentine elections approached, that some of their staff did not really understand what Peronism was. Palmer said: "One of President Alfonsin's tasks now in working to solve the country's economic problems is to retain the support of the trade unions, many of which are Peronist-led. It's important to realize that Peronism remains a potent force." Everyone enjoyed the show very much and Palmer would like Andrew Lloyd Webber and/or Tim Rice to write a musical about Alfonsin's triumph, so that he can take a staff party to that too.

BARRY FANTONI

SOCIAL SECURITY

"Mind you, Mario Lanza didn't have it all his own way to begin with"

Cold comfort

Britoil has chosen a painting from Glasgow Museum for its Christmas card this year. It is called *The Day of Rest, Winter View Greenock*, painted in 1904 by Patrick Downie and shows the very spot where the Scott Lithgow yard faces probable closure and the loss of more than 4,000 jobs after Britoil's cancellation of its order for a £86m deep sea drilling rig.

PHS

Auntie's festive low-de-low

David Hewson describes the danger signs for the BBC as it battles to regain its Christmas ratings

The BBC wants but one thing for Christmas: an audience as big and devoted to Auntie as it used to be. Try as the corporation might, the viewers have deserted it for the other side in droves. Tomorrow the tinsel and glitter-ridden bandwagon of the Christmas schedules is rolled out in an attempt to win back these viewers. The rumour hotline within Broadcasting House currently has it that managerial topplings will shortly follow if normal service is not resumed and maintained over the holiday.

The corporation is genuinely bemused over why it should be doing so badly in the ratings. It has not exactly been scheduling a seven-part series on *The Life of the Loofah* at peaktime on Saturday nights, or producing such quintessentially diabolical drama of yore as the Borgias. Yet the figures remain doggedly rotten. For the week ending December 11, the BBC had one programme in the ratings top ten, *The Two Ronnies*, which came in sixth. The commercial network, with Channel 4, attracted 54 per cent of the total audience, eight points ahead of the two BBC channels.

A quick trawl among the BBC's rivals reveals an unusual accord over where the blame lies. "The scheduling has been lousy", according to one ITV executive. "When we came out with *The Winds of War* they did nothing against us on the first night. We pulled in the viewers and they have stuck with us. ITV has had a strong schedule, of course, but the BBC handed us a lot on a plate. Just look at Sunday nights – *By The Sword Divided* has provided no competition for us at all. And *Sixty Minutes* has been a disaster."

This is a viewpoint shared by the advertising industry. Young and Rubicam, one of the leading television agencies, says: "While much of *ITV 1's* success can be attributed to its strong programme line-up for the month (September), BBC's schedule in comparison was undoubtedly its worst for some considerable time. The extent of ITV 1's dominance is shown by the fact that not a single BBC programme appeared in BARB's (Broadcasting Audience Research Board) listing of the month's top 50 rating programmes."

The BBC hopes that the holiday will provide some reversal of its fortunes. Its £10m package is as predictable as a Christmas Day menu, 90-minute films of yesterday's successes such as *Last of the Summer Wine* and *All Creatures Great and Small*, and new versions of existing light entertainment programmes. There may be scarcely a new idea in the whole thing, though that is not necessarily bad for the ratings; but one wonders if this desperate recycling stands much chance of success.

The ITV companies are far more worried about maintaining their lead outside the holiday period than winning a battle for kudos within it. Even if the BBC gains a majority of the Christmas audience, it is by no means certain that it will recover any ground in January. The behaviour of the audience last Christmas seems to support the commercial network's attitude towards the holiday; then the viewing figures fell by 12 per cent, partly because of the number of people using video recorders to watch rented films. With video ownership now around the five million mark, the trend is likely to continue this year.

The corporation cannot even comfort itself with the notion, current six months ago; that television viewing itself is in decline. ITV's successful autumn, and the arrival of Channel 4, has actually increased the amount of time Britons spend in front of the set. In October, the average daily viewing per home reached 5.2 hours, 6 per cent more than in October 1982. The rise was wholly due to the commercial sector; viewing of BBC programmes fell by 6 per cent in the same period.

Had Channel 4 performed as well as it might, the news for the BBC would have been worse. But Jeremy Isaacs' organization is now beginning to find its feet, to the corporation's likely detriment. January sees the arrival of one glamorous mini-series, *The Far Pavilions* (while, oddly enough, Granada's literary adaptation of *The Raj Quartet* will go out on ITV 1) in a new scheduling policy. The result, placing Channel 4's more popular programmes together in blocks, should increase its present viewing share which, in the latest figures, stood at 5 per cent; although it may, of course, take viewers from ITV 1 instead of the BBC.

What is the BBC's reaction? Initially, it has been to bring up the shock troops. *Hi-de-hi*, which was once one of the corporation's most popular comedy shows, was dragged into the Sunday night schedules at least three weeks before planned in an effort to hold a few more viewers before *By The Sword Divided* thrust cod Cromwellian English in front of a lukewarm audience. The gambit failed; *Hi-de-hi* has failed to make the BBC's own Top Ten, let alone that of the television community overall. Should Christmas go the same way, one must look to changes at Broadcasting House.

There is a school of thought which says that the BBC should be above chasing ratings since it is principally a public service broadcasting system. This line of reasoning is insidiously attractive. The BBC's director of television programmes, Brian Wenham, was forced to admit recently: "We are financially unable to compete with ITV's blockbusters in the way some of us would like.

If the corporation cannot compete on expensive drama, which now costs about £250,000 an hour to produce, could it not concentrate on quality in preference to mass appeal?

Politics dictates otherwise. Next year, the corporation must enter into new negotiations about its future licence income. A new colour television licence of at least £60 a year is likely to be demanded by Broadcasting House. If its services can attract the regular attention of only about 45 per cent of the viewing public, the BBC's mandarins believe that they will come under intense pressure to justify their existence. For them, just as for the ITV companies, ratings have become an essential way of life, almost obliterating the fact that the BBC's reputation is almost wholly founded on programmes which are resolutely not of the common herd.

The corporation's potential January blockbuster, which has been juggled around the schedules after the fashion of a fading centre forward looking for the best place in a Fourth Division football team, is *Thornbirds*, the latest in a series of American mini-series, and by all accounts no better and no worse than its flaccid stablemates.

It is flimsy stuff around which to set a cliffhanger about one of the world's great broadcasting institutions, and a measure of the stormy times facing a BBC torn in several contradictory directions.

Ronald Butt

Are the churches missing the point?

This is how the present life of man on earth, King, appears to me in comparison with that time which is unknown to us. You are sitting feasting with your ealdormen and thegns in wintertime; the fire is burning on the hearth in the middle of the hall, and all inside is warm, while outside the wintry storms of rain and snow are raging; and a sparrow flies swiftly through the hall. It enters in at one door and quickly flies out through the other. For the few moments it is inside, the storm and wintry tempest cannot touch it, but after the briefest moment of calm, it flits from your sight; out of the wintry storm and into it again.

So this life of man appears but for a moment; what follows or indeed what went before, we know not at all. If this new doctrine brings us more certain information, it seems right that we should accept it.

It was in these words, according to Bede, that one of the chief men of Edwin of Northumbria answered the question the king put to each member of his council; whether they should become Christian. The midwinter imagery of this evocative story is a reminder that Christianity has always been principally about first and last things. Inevitably, it is also about things in between; about the conduct required of mankind on earth. How, logically, could a religion concerned with the essential nature and destiny of humanity be otherwise? But its claim to revelation of first and last things has been its mainspring and the power by which its teaching first won the western world.

Today, however, it is the things between, here and now, that are dominant in the teaching of Christian priests and ministers. Their concern is concentrated on the details of political, social and economic action, and that is why, throughout this year, the debate about the proper relationship of Christianity to politics has rumbled on, in the correspondence and other columns of *The Times*, and also widely elsewhere. Churchmen have been praised or blamed both for what they have said on such matters and also for being as involved as they are in them, irrespective of what they have said.

On no question have they been more heavily involved than in that of nuclear war. The Catholic hierarchy and the Anglican Synod have rejected demands from within their churches to support unilateral disarmament but (in search of consensus) both have moved well beyond the broad Christian imperative that nuclear "deterrence" is acceptable only as a means of maintaining peace through balance on the way to disarmament. They have entered the area of detailed political and strategic (rather than theological) argument, the Catholics criticizing the presence of cruise missiles in Britain and arguing for greater British control over them, the Anglicans calling for a commitment to "no first use".

The same tendency towards detailed political involvement is evident in church reactions to the running debate on the shape and dimensions of the welfare state and (particularly because of unemployment) to economic policy. It is, of course, self-evident that Christianity is a religion which should condition the action and thinking of anyone with the least claim to heed it. By its nature, it requires each individual to take responsibility when it is needed for the well-being of others which must mean those in need and those without work.

But there is nothing, for instance, in Christian teaching which provides answers to the question when and whether the welfare of others is best assured by individual or communal action and, if by both, in what proportions. It can state the principle but cannot prescribe the means of practising, it in social circumstances that are always transient. It can tell us that we should seek a society in which all can work, but it does not prescribe the science for achieveing this. It cannot tell us, *ex cathedra*, whether work is better created by Keynesian economics or by relying on control of the money supply to defeat inflation.

Why, then, do churchmen increasingly express the imperatives of Christian principle in terms which imply, or even indicate openly, particular political action. I put the question recently to a prominent member of the Anglican priesthood who is himself much concerned with the social implications of his creed. He was remarkably honest and candid, his answer boiling down to something like this. Nowadays, when it is harder for churchmen to point upward to heaven (and he pointed) the ultimate questions are much harder to tackle. In a way, he said, the Anglican church is a very honest church and does not attempt to over-ride doubt with strong theological assertions, but tries to carry people with it in an age of doubt.

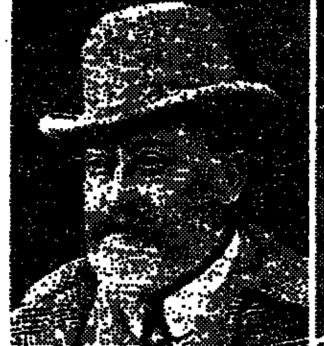
The implication was that the sociological concern of contemporary churchmen is, in part at least, a compensation for the uncertainties about ultimate questions in an age when, for so many, scepticism has gnawed at the fundamentals of faith. It is a phenomenon which I do not think is confined to one church.

Another Anglican priest spoke to me recently about the crowd of once-a-year attenders he expects at his church at midnight on Christmas Eve; of his uncertainty about how to address a crowd largely unknown to him, some of whom will have come from the pub; of the fact that he has sometimes even been glad that there were one or two policemen among his congregation. Why do they go? They are, perhaps, like Bede's sparrow, coming in from the darkness for light and warmth and even searching in some way for a belief towards which the church, preoccupied with social action, is not always well placed to help them in an age which is not one of conversion.

The tendency of our time is for the clergy to allow respectable doubt on what used to be the unquestioned tenets of their creed, while holding with apparent certainty the vision of right and wrong as it might be perceived by the presenters of *Newsnight*. To change a 2,000-year-old conviction about marriage; to doubt parts of the Gospels is permissible. But it would not be respectable to question some of the obsessive ethics of the secular world.

Yet if churchmen have few certainties to offer about the fundamentals, about first and last things, what special weight is to be attached to their attachment to particular social and political prescriptions? Their danger is that of missing the main point. It is not, I think, for social and political instruction that the churches are crowded on Christmas Eve.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now







Royal smokers: Edward VII, George V, Edward VIII and George VI – but how can David Simpson (right) say tobacco killed them?

Smoking: a small puff for a little less humbug

You all know the story of the Boy Scout troop who were asked what good deed they had done that day, and answered that they had taken an old lady across the road. "But why", asks the scoutmaster, "did it need eight of you to do that?" "Because", comes the reply, "she didn't want to go". It is my belief that those eight precocious masters of the art of doing other people good against their will have grown up and are all working in the anti-smoking industry. Moreover, the leader of the patrol, whose uniform was covered with so many proficiency badges he could hardly stand upright, was Mr David Simpson, who is now the director of Action for Smoking and Health, known as ASH (my forthcoming study of the subject, which is the fruit of many years' detailed research, will show conclusively that acronyms give you lung cancer), and he hasn't changed a bit.

But this time I think he has Gone Too Far. He was replying, at the weekend, to a comment in the *Sunday Telegraph*, in which the writer had mildly deplored the fanatacism of the anti-smoking industry. Mr Simpson began in characteristic style by claiming that the writer's attitude stemmed from the fact that he is a heavy smoker; it really does seem impossible to get into Mr Simpson's head the fact that some people, regardless of their own habits, find genuinely repellent the desire of him and his kind to make everybody behave as they do themselves, and to harass, insult, intimidate and ultimately use the law against them until they do.

Well, there is one charge Mr Simpson cannot bring against me; my opposition to his fanaticism cannot be based upon my desire to go on smoking, because I don't smoke, and dislike the practice a good deal. I have never been a cigarette smoker; about once a month I used to smoke a cigar, but I doubt if my rate is now more than one a year. So at least I come with clean hands to the fray, and I shall do Mr Simpson the justice of believing that he will not argue that I am in the pay of the tobacco industry, though to judge from the correspondence I get whenever I write about this subject, the same cannot be said about some of his followers.

To the fray, however. The lengths to which the anti-smokers will go is exquisitely demonstrated in another part of Mr Simpson's reply. Defending (as of course I would also) the right of the Duke of Gloucester to be patron of the anti-smoking organization, he said that

> The duke's keen, active and concerned patronage of ASH reflects the seriousness of our work and responsibilities; and no doubt members of the royal family might wish ASH had been around for much longer, seeing that smoking killed our last four kings.

Our last four kings, as any standard reference book will confirm, were Edward VII, George V, Edward VIII and George VI, and one point must immediately be conceded to Mr Simpson: they are all undoubtedly dead. The matter, however, cannot be allowed to rest there, and it is the reason why it cannot be allowed to rest there that provides the subject of my remarks today.

Edward VII died, in 1910, at the age of 69, a span somewhat above average for those days. George V died in 1936 at 71 (par for the course), the Duke of Windsor at 78, well above average, and George VI at 57, well below it.

All four of these monarchs smoked; the last of them contracted lung cancer, and may be presumed to have died of it. As Mr Simpson knows, but will wriggle himself into sciatica rather than admit, the link between smoking and lung cancer, though undoubtedly very strong, cannot prove that any particular sufferer from the latter got it from the former, and still less can it prove that smoking was the *only* cause. Still, I certainly cannot prove the opposite case, and Mr Simpson is entitled to the *probability* that smoking killed George VI. One down and three to go.

Edward VII suffered from a number of diseases (including lechery, gluttony and gambling, though even Mr Simpson would not claim that these are induced by smoking); he had typhoid in 1871, a form of appendicitis is 1902 and some bronchial trouble in the year of his death, which was very abrupt. There is no evidence from which we may conclude that he was "killed by smoking", and precious little that his smoking had everything to do with his final illness.

George V played golf, gave up drinking throughout the First World War (if it comes to that, George VI gave up *smoking* throughout the Second) and broke his pelvis in a riding accident in 1915, but he survived all these catastrophes without lasting harm. He also survived, though much more narrowly, a streptococcal infection picked up in 1928; that was eight years before his death, and he made a complete recovery from it. In his case, there is not the slightest reason to suppose that smoking ever did him any harm at all.

Edward VIII enjoyed generally good health throughout his very long life; he was a fairly silly man most of the time, but again, Mr Simpson would presumably not argue that smoking causes softening of the brain. As for the present Queen, she doesn't smoke at all, and anyway is still alive, so *that's* all right.

Now estimate, to three places of decimals, the degree of self-deceptive intolerance from which a man must suffer to take the above facts and turn them into "smoking killed our last four kings". Having done that exercise, try working out how far you would trust the same man to tell you the time of day and get it right in fewer than three goes. It is not too nuch to say that Mr Simpson and his kind are firmly convinced, or at any rate behave as though they are convinced, that if any person first smokes and then dies, it must follow as the night the day that the smoking was the direct and sole cause of the dying. It is useless for me to tell Mr Simpson that my maternal grandfather smoked 50 cigarettes a day throughout his adult life (his last breath was used, literally, to inhale his last puff) and died at the age of 84, because he will undoubtedly reply that if grandpa hadn't smoked he would have lived to 168, and I cannot prove him wrong. But I *can* prove him reckless and absurd in his fanaticism, and on the whole I think I just have.

Smoking is undoubtedly dangerous: nobody should be encouraged to do it, or to admire it. It is also a fairly nasty habit. It undoubtedly aggravates many illnesses, and no less undoubtedly causes some of them, and fatalities therefrom. But no one can say that *this* man contracted lung cancer and died of it *because* he smoked, whether the corpse was of a king or a ratcatcher, and it is worth adding that some people contract lung cancer without ever setting eyes on a cigarette. And to claim that "smoking killed our last four kings" is not merely nonsense; it is the thirteenth chime of the clock, which casts doubt on all that has gone before, and diminishes the effect of Mr Simpson's more sensible work.

It is well that there are organizations which seek to draw our attention to the dangers of smoking, but it is not at all well that the members of such organizations should behave as though smokers are *hostes humani generis*, or as though the rules of evidence do not apply to those who campaign to stop them smoking. Those of you who have German may take extra comfort from the following verse; it is impossible to translate gracefully, but I offer a very free version to my monoglot readers:

Alkohol und Nikotin
Rafft die halbe Menschheit hin:
Ohne Alkohol und Rauch,
Stirbt die andere Hälfte auch.

If you smoke and if you drink,
It is later than you think:
If such poison's not your game,
You will perish just the same.

How the IRA bombs backfire in America

New York

The Harrods bomb, which claimed an American among its five victims, has made many Americans think hard.

In the past 12 years people in the United States have given several million dollars to help the IRA buy its guns and explosives. Much of the money is collected at jolly social evenings, dances, film shows and other events advertised in the little papers published for the Irish-American community.

The hat also goes round at meetings addressed by IRA men who have been in prison by the relatives of jailed men, and, occasionally, by fugitives.

The IRA's front organization in the US is the Irish Northern Aid Committee, known as Noraid. This week, the *Boston Globe*, which serves a city with a large Irish element, criticized the IRA and those city and state politicians who support it. The *Globe* said: "No political objective could justify random ruthlessness against the innocent. Anyone who loves Ireland should be heartsick, as most Irish people are, that its good name is invoked to justify this savagery."

It reminded readers that four Irish prime ministers had urged Americans not to give money to the IRA, and asked what people in Boston would think if a big department store there had been blown up and the Lord Mayor of London attended a fund-raising dinner for the bombers.

It went on: "The IRA has made enough widows and orphans in Ireland and Britain. It is time to bar the State House doors to murderers."

Noraid's leaders have always denied that the money they raise helps to keep the IRA in arms and ammunition, and it has never been proved in a court that Noraid has provided the guns for terrorism.

Noraid's men in New York, like its leader, Michael Flannery, and its chief spokesman, Martin Galvin, always claim that the cash goes to organizations, such as the Green Cross in northern Ireland and ACC in the Republic, for the relief of the families of jailed IRA men.

The US Justice Department which has conducted a long investigation of Noraid's activities, say the organization is "the major American source of funds for the IRA" and that about three-quarters of the money used to support violence in Northern Ireland comes from American sources.

The US government has been trying to clamp down on Noraid, which it regards as an agent of the IRA, by forcing it to comply with the Foreign Agents Registration Act and make declarations of its membership, funding and activities.

Recently the government asked a judge in New York to declare that Noraid's failure to comply was contempt of court and asked for a $5,000-a-day fine. The case was adjourned to January, and Noraid said it looked forward to a day in court to prove that it was being "hounded" at Britain's behest.

Noraid has between 80 and 100 branches across the country, some 5,000 members and perhaps 30,000 sympathizers on its fringes. It has successfully exploited the sentiment of the large Irish-American element and the widespread ignorance of the complexities and emotions of the Northern Ireland issue.

There are about 40 million Americans of Irish descent, and the Irish accent has traditionally been strong, not least in politics and the police. There is a strong sentimental notion of Ireland, and St Patrick's Day parades are popular.

One effect of the Harrod's bomb outrage is likely to be a decline in support and donations for Noraid. IRA atrocities in the past have led to a falling-off in contributions, and Saturday's murders have had a considerable impact here, not only because an American died among the Christmas shoppers but also because Americans, in other parts of the world, have recently been the victims of terrorist car bombs.

Trevor Fishlock

Jonathan Sale

The Xfam way to a happy Oxmas

In the steam from the kettle, the flap of the envelope peeled up easily. It was an appeal for money, again. I like to check the children's letters to their grandparents for spelling but it is often the content that makes me blush first.

"What I want costs £16.99," she wrote. "I am saving up for it but so far have only got the 99p – Love, Rebecca. PS. Peter has got his BMX bike now so you needn't give me anything for that. But I am saving up for some *Star Wars* spaceships. This is what they cost."

There follows a catalogue of what it takes to equip Darth Vader's intergalactic fleet, each item in double figures and the total approaching three. My only consolation is that the youngest child makes no demands of a financial nature. That is because she is too young to write.

I corrected the worst of the spelling mistakes, added a full stop or two and resealed the flaps. It takes long enough to wheedle epistles to relatives out of them, without criticizing the one element powerful enough to induce them to put pen to Snoopy writing-paper.

There is probably no harm done. The grandparents do not complain. They do not send cheques to the full amount, either; but money does find its way into post office accounts.

Rather than stand in their way, I have decided to put on a more professional basis the traditional Christmas pastime of extracting money from relatives old enough to know better. For the benefit of my children, and yours, I have been working on a series of formula letters which should prove as effective as the versions falling through letterboxes from the more grown-up (and worthwhile) charitable organizations. They should be copied out in neatest handwriting, incorporating a few deliberate misspellings to add pathos.

Dear Grandparent, I know that you have many demands on your resources at this time of year. It is for this reason that you will want to be sure of the aid that you provide going straight to the recipient for whom it is intended, that is, me. I can guarantee this absolutely, and would be happy to provide any account numbers or paying-in slips to this effect. With warmest thanks for your past, and future, support...

Dear Gran. We at Peterfam are proud of our unrivalled record of eliminating administrative costs. No funds at all are diverted into loss-making activities such as expenditure on paper and envelopes, as these relate to your last birthday gift, and the stamps are courtesy of Toytown (we trust that the postman's surcharge is no great inconvenience). With best wishes for a prosperous New Year...

Dear Nan, Would YOU like to sponsor a doll? For a modest weekly outlay, YOUR name will be inscribed on the underwear of a Barbie or similar fine doll purchased by YOUR kind donation. Without YOUR care, this dolly would be left high and dry on the shelf of the toyshop. Wouldn't YOU like to bring a smile to its precocious little lips and rounded cheeks? All credit cards taken. Goodbye, and God Bless...

Dear Aunt, Please find enclosed a picture entitled *Car Crashing into Tomato Ketchup Storage Vat* or possibly *Luke Skywalker in the Grip of the Dwarf Sun*. It was painted in the dark and the red is all green instead. This is because the Torch Fund is, like the batteries, extremely low, which is a grave handicap to artistic activity after parents have switched lights out. The above-mentioned lack of red is caused by serious losses and possibly thefts in the Fibre-Tip branch of this organization. I know that we can rely on your assistance in balancing the books. Unless, that is, you want to be bombarded with green smears every week during 1984. Yours ominously...

Dear Uncle, It is a savage irony of the festive season that in a class of happy, well-fed children, there is one handicapped by complete lack of a ZX100 Little Star-Battler Electro-game. This is not a Third World shanty-town but the capital city of western democracy! Will you help to remedy this scandal? Will the ZX100 Electro-game hang from that child's tree? It is, after all, what Christmas is all about. Yours self-righteously...

هكذا من الأصل

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

HARD POUNDING

Cabinet ministers congregate this morning for the last time in 1983, and Parliament rises for the Christmas recess this afternoon. It is six months since the election, but the political landscape seems quite different from that June day. Autumn brought its share of political diversions.

The Opposition has a new suit of clothes though there is no evidence yet that the body inside the clothes has undergone any lasting change. However, the Labour Party is getting used to the feel of a new leadership. The flavour of that leadership places less emphasis on policy, and thus less on faction – let alone radicalism – and more on polishing the veneer of the party machine and achieving effective management and control. This technique has certainly had an effect in terms of the Labour Party's position in the opinion polls and in the general improvement of party morale. It cannot yet be said to have resulted in the party showing any desire or capacity to work for a sustained coherent and above all credible critique of the present government and its policies.

Indeed the attitude of the Kinnock Labour Party seems to be based primarily on the view that the preservation of unity is its most important strategy, while waiting to take advantage of the failure of this government, on the principle that oppositions do not win elections, though governments lose them. Given the divisive policy-making in the Labour Party's recent history that must be a tempting option, and who can blame Mr Kinnock and his colleagues for this complacency when they see the Alliance slipping further in the polls and appearing to be less and less credible as an alternative political system?

Meanwhile it is said that the Government has become accident prone. That is so only in a superficial sense. On the underlying issue of the economy the Government's position is stronger now than it was in the summer. The evidence of controlled inflation persists, and even the ranks of Tuscany can scarce forbear to admit that economic recovery is with us. Only yesterday the OECD forecast that Britain's growth would exceed the European average next year and probably in 1985, pausing only to ask – inevitably – whether the recovery could be sustained.

The Government can therefore feel some satisfaction. Its doggedness in economic policy is paying off. Cabinet ministers have their heads down, persevering with unglamorous but essential programmes, denying by their every action the existence of the alleged "hidden manifesto"; but surely storing up some future trouble for themselves in the process.

There are dangers in an approach based on the politics of attrition. For a start it means that the argument about public spending will recur each year, generating much heat about sums which are essentially marginal in terms of the total budget. It means that economic management will continue to involve manipulation and bullying in the public and private sectors, where the Government will continue to wield the power of the state purse which it has tried absolutely without success to reduce, hoping instead that economic growth will achieve a relative reduction.

Rhetorically the Prime Minister and the Chancellor still talk about reducing the scale of government. Few of their colleagues now join them. The reality is that this Cabinet, after six months, has come to terms with a more traditional Tory mixture than the radical thinking still perceived lurking between the lines of Prime Ministerial speeches.

Traditionalist Tory politics have perhaps allowed ministers to escape from facing up to the central contradiction in the radical position. That was to argue for the disengagement of government from many activities, while assuming powers of control and supervision – ostensibly as a transitional mechanism – which betrayed the very purpose and principle of disengagement.

The Prime Minister's political personality has always been clear and uncomplicated to voters. They have hitherto known what they can expect from her. If she, and by extension, her Cabinet, now change character and accept that they are in power to manage the existing and faulty system, not to change it, they will have some explaining to do. The trouble with the politics of attrition – of "hard pounding" – is that people forget what the pounding is for.

TWO CABINETS: ONE TERRORISM

One item on the agenda of today's Cabinet meeting is the possible proscription of Sinn Fein. There is a strong *a priori* case for doing so. Sinn Fein is a party which openly advocates the violent overthrow of the institutions of the state, the "armed struggle" as it likes to call it. It operates the soft half of the Armalite/ballot box duality proclaimed by the Provisional movement. Moreover there are ample grounds to suspect some interchangeability of membership between Sinn Fein and the IRA – daylight politicians and night-time terrorists, in Lord Fitt's vivid image.

In these ways Sinn Fein is implicated in terrorist crime, though to a degree that keeps it for the most part outside the reach of the criminal law. The affiliation is a direct source of strength to the IRA, which is an illegal organization. Sinn Fein is therefore a legitimate object for extension of the criminal law; since the entitlement of a democratic state to proceed against internal organizations that seek to mobilize support for violent subversion is not to be doubted. Both the power and the justification are present for proclaiming Sinn Fein an illegal organization.

Unfortunately to proscribe Sinn Fein is not to cancel the phenomenon Sinn Fein exemplifies, which is organized support among a section of the population, in sentiment and in practice, for the pursuit of a political end by means of terrorism. It is possible that proscription might even have the hollow success of dispensing the name and reinforcing the reality. The matter is to be judged not simply in terms of principle or in accordance with feelings of outrage, but by reference to utility. That requires a careful appraisal of its probable effects.

The Irish Cabinet met the day before yesterday with the same item on its agenda. It has not committed itself and wants further study to be made, but the indications are that it is unlikely to decide in favour of a ban on Sinn Fein; that it may prefer to move along more precise lines, and is exploring ways of extending the law relating to incitement and abetting. That might allow the authorities to move against selected subversives without either driving Sinn Fein underground or having recourse to ineffective blanket measures.

Like Mr Prior Irish ministers are also interested in the idea of sending Sinn Fein party representatives to Coventry. As in Northern Ireland Sinn Fein has been making some headway in the Republic by the diligent pursuit of community politics. In a recent by-election in Dublin Sinn Fein polled 7 per cent of the vote, more than it is accustomed to. The constituency contains some of the slummiest parts of the city and was rife with drug abuse. Sinn Fein set about the drug pedlars with its usual ruthlessness and to good effect. In such ways it wins a local following. Zest for the "armed struggle" can be implanted later. No Sinn Fein candidate has been elected to the Dail in recent years but there are about 25 councillors of that description. A refusal by officials at every level to do business with the party's representatives might limit Sinn Fein's effectiveness and impair its exploitation of community politics.

The discussion in Downing Street will have to concentrate on the position of Sinn Fein in Northern Ireland (although a ban, if that is what it comes to, should be for the whole United Kingdom, it is with reference to Northern Ireland that the proposal should be judged). In the Republic Sinn Fein's advocacy of political violence has a historical potency about it but wins it few friends today; it is electorally negligible, and is presently tainted by the revulsion against the IRA murder of an Irish soldier and policeman. The problem there is to keep the genie in the bottle.

The problem in the North is that the genie is out of the bottle. Sinn Fein mounts a formidable political challenge in the community affected. A ban in the Republic would be presented and probably accepted as a measure of state security. A ban in Northern Ireland would be more easily challengeable as a political measure, an attempt to silence the voice of the people.

Although the considerations that must weigh with the two governments are not identical Dublin has given a lead to London in two particulars: in its deliberation, making sure of its ground before moving; and in its initial preference for selective measures directed at the more blatant abuses of Sinn Fein's political cover. The two governments should consult and if possible concert their plans, though it is better for the health of Dr FitzGerald that they not be seen to do so. It was over-evident cooperation with the British in a matter of security that was part of Mr Jack Lynch's undoing.

POVERTY AND THE POLES

The low-key rallies held in Polish cities last Friday are not an indication of growing reconciliation between government and people; they are rather the result of a massive police presence and the constant emphasis by Solidarity leaders on the need for peaceful protest against unworkable policies rather than violent opposition to the regime. It made no sense to commemorate those killed in the price protests of 1970 and the first days of martial law in December 1981 by risking further deaths and injuries.

The threat that police brutality may lead to further bloodshed has not receded, however. Both the underground Solidarity leadership and the government are concerned that the price rises expected in January might provoke violent street demonstrations. General Jaruzelski has attempted to persuade the Poles that they are being consulted by circulating questionnaires, but it seems that most of the answers received so far have been unprintable. Speaking recently to Silesian miners he acknowledged that price rises would cause increased hardship but argued that only by raising production can the fall in living standards be halted: he claimed that the "strike madness" was over.

This is not the message of the underground Solidarity leadership, which maintains that there can be little improvement in the economy while ideology and the preservation of the political system are given higher priority than the people's welfare. Longer working hours, growing poverty, and the squandering of national resources are a result of trying to rule without popular participation.

With a third of the population living below the poverty line and the average wage so low that both parents must work to earn enough for their family's basic necessities, strike action and street demonstrations threaten disaster from the arrest or dismissal of a bread-winner.

Since the imposition of martial law, living standards have dropped by thirty per cent and a further drop is expected next year. The government has blamed Solidarity opposition and Western economic sanctions rather than admit responsibility for its own economic mismanagement. The vast majority of Poles welcomed sanctions as an expression of the West's outrage and a sign of support for their banned trade union. Now, however, Mr Lech Walesa has appealed for the lifting of sanctions. Confirmed in his status as a genuine representative of Polish aspirations by the mass approval which greeted the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize, he should not be ignored.

The rescheduling of Poland's debt to the West is already under discussion, but a satisfactory outcome depends on the Polish government accepting realistic terms. Humanitarian arguments and the need to support Solidarity now combine in making some relaxation of other sanctions desirable, but in such a way as to encourage more genuine concessions from the regime than have been apparent so far. A Christmas amnesty for the hundreds of political prisoners would be a welcome sign of good faith.

Mr Walesa has already emphasized that there must be no return to the "disastrous" loan process of the 1970s, when borrowed money was squandered by the regime. More conditionality will be necessary in future. Top priority must go to aiding food production. Western broadcasts can make it clear in Poland that the gradual relaxation of sanctions is to help the Poles rather than the regime, and that further economic cooperation is dependent on better treatment of the population.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Just retribution for terrorism

From Mr Denis E. Meehan

Sir, As an Irishman who has lived and worked in London for many years I have often taken your prescription and transported myself in imagination to Belfast, as horrors multiplied there.

But theoretical or imaginative perception of terrorism is somewhat remote from the quiddity of it, which I experienced at Harrods, where I work, on Saturday. I can now no longer find it in me to believe that the agents of such destruction, wanton and random in its effects, are capable of redemption. Reluctantly, for I have been a lifetime opponent of capital punishment, I now believe that terrorists convicted of murder should be executed.

Of course I may be over-reacting, but I would guess that a majority of the thousands of people who were in Harrods on Saturday, both staff and customers, would agree with me.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS E. MEEHAN,
194 Merton Road,
Wandsworth, SW18.
December 19.

From Mrs Aileen Keogan

Sir, As a citizen of this unfortunate country may I thank you for your compassionate editorial today (December 19).

There are so many of us here who suffer, and have suffered, unbearable anguish and despair at the atrocities which are being daily perpetrated in our name. With each new horror it becomes an increasing source of shame to belong to a race which could beget creatures capable of such mind-boggling acts.

Our only hope is that the British people will realize, in time that, together with our agony and sorrow for these dreadful deeds, we must carry the added burden of shame and shared responsibility.

This is, I fear, not very coherent, but believe me, it comes from the heart.

Sincerely,
AILEEN KEOGAN,
11 Ballymace Green,
Templeogue,
Dublin,
Republic of Ireland.
December 19.

From Mr Richard Meynell

Sir, In the wake of the Harrods bombing, it may be helpful to the IRA to compare what they have in fact achieved by their actions with their declared, or self-evident, objectives.

Their first objective is, by terror, to compel the British Government and people to change their policy. To see that they will in fact have achieved precisely the opposite effect it is only necessary for them to consider the reaction of this people to the last application of terror – Hitler's Blitz – by thugs of equivalent depravity.

Their second objective is to advance the cause of Ireland. They have done the opposite; they have in fact advanced perilously close to that tragic brink where the once fair name of Ireland will, however undeservedly, become synonymous with all that is most vile.

Their third objective is to kill, cripple and inflict agony on as many totally innocent men, women and children – especially children, as evidenced by their deliberate choice of the peak family shopping time – as is in their power. In this objective they have succeeded. In this they can glory and rejoice.

Or can they? Will they not eventually realize that all they have done is to damage their own cause; and then, as they hear in their minds, as they surely will, the screams of children, then, in the stinking depths of even their coward hearts, will not the worm of remorse eventually begin to gnaw?

Sir, this is an emotional letter, but are there perhaps occasions where emotions, rather than dispassionate arguments, reflect the truer position?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD MEYNELL,
Berry Hall,
Honingham,
Norfolk.
December 19.

From Sir Ian Percival, QC, MP for Southport (Conservative)

Sir, One of the most common – and it would seem telling – arguments advanced against capital punishment for terrorists has been that it would make martyrs of them.

Is it really conceivable that if the perpetrators of such an outrage as last Saturday's were convicted and executed, anyone could in any circumstances think of them as martyrs? And does not the same apply to the outrages, lesser though they may be in their drama, perpetrated daily in Northern Ireland itself?

Yours faithfully,
IAN PERCIVAL,
3 Hare Court,
Temple, EC4.
December 19.

From Lord Hunt

Sir, I listened to a part of the interview given today, and broadcast on the BBC's *The World at One* programme, in the aftermath of the Harrods bomb outrage, in which Mr Prior emphasized the international character of the IRA's campaign of terror. It may be of interest to your readers to know that there was evidence of this at the very beginning of the current troubles in Northern Ireland, which began in 1969.

During our inquiry into the police forces in the province, which followed the serious fighting in the streets of Belfast in August of that year, the committee of which I was chairman was provided with clear evidence of the presence in Belfast and Derry City of foreign anarchists with no previous connections with the issue of Irish nationalism, whose purpose was none other than to exploit the civil rights movement (in which the IRA were not, at that time, actively involved: vide *Report of the Advisory Committee*, ch 2, paras 21 and 23).

We were shown posters almost identical, except for the language of the text, with some of the inflammatory literature distributed in France during the abortive uprising against the government of General de Gaulle in 1968.

Mr Prior is right. Those who support the IRA in the fallacious hope, however sincerely held, that theirs is the way to political unity in Ireland, are in fact aiding and abetting international anarchy.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HUNT,
Highway Cottage,
Aston,
Henley-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire.
December 19.

Reviving Ireland Act

From Mr J. Enoch Powell, MP for Down South (Official Unionist Party)

Sir, Contrary to Mrs Hanna Quinn's belief (December 20), the provisions of the Government of Ireland Act, 1920, relating to a Council of Ireland are not "still on the statute book".

I am, Sir, yours etc,
J. ENOCH POWELL,
House of Commons.
December 20.

Children and the Pill

From the Secretary of the British Medical Association

Sir, It is tragic that those of us who have children's welfare at heart should be divided by Sir Bernard Braine's narrow arguments (December 15). We agree that in girls under the age of 16 sexual activity is medically and emotionally undesirable. We agree that where it is occurring it is highly desirable that the parents should be aware of the position so that they can offer the necessary support to the girl. It is therefore irresponsible of Sir Bernard to state that doctors are making contraceptives "freely available" to young girls without parental consent.

The best way of managing the problem is to place no obstacle in the way of such girls seeking medical advice as the doctor will do his best to persuade the girl to agree to the parents being informed; and only in exceptional cases, and where the doctor is satisfied of the capability of the girl to handle the situation, will treatment be given without the parents being informed.

If the law were to provide either that it is illegal to give contraceptive advice and treatment in any circumstances to young girls, or that doctors should be required to inform the parents in such cases, there would be a marked reluctance to seek medical advice, with the consequences of unwanted pregnancies and, at worst, recourse to illegal abortionists. An important opportunity would therefore be lost for doctors to help such girls and to persuade them to involve their parents.

It does not assist the resolution of these serious problems for Sir Bernard to suggest that doctors are encouraging promiscuity. Furthermore, there is no evidence to suggest that there is a cause and effect relationship of the kind he implies in his letter, between abortion and illegitimacy statistics and the availability of contraception.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HAVARD, Secretary,
British Medical Association,
BMA House,
Tavistock Square, WC1.
December 19.

Remand prisoners

From Mr Maurice Cowin

Sir, I read with great interest the article written (feature, December 14) by Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Knowsley North, on the appalling situation regarding the plight of remand prisoners.

A friend of mine has been in custody, on holding charges only, since early August and has been shovelled around from police cell to police cell, from Barking to Sevenoaks, from Aylesbury to Winchmore Hill. The conditions in these cells, which are no way the fault of the police, are similar to those one associates with far darker corners of the world than the Greater London area.

It is almost impossible for his solicitor to arrange his defence due to his constant change of whereabouts, and the pressures on his family are totally unacceptable, bearing in mind that a person is innocent until proved guilty.

Surely magistrates must be made more aware of this disgraceful state of affairs, and surely positive action should be taken now – and not in the near future.

Yours faithfully,
MAURICE COWIN,
65 Alder Lodge,
River Gardens,
Stevenage Road, SW6.
December 16.

Financial solution

From Mr Giorgio Francesconi

Sir, Far from being an unwelcome development, a British decision to withhold payment to the EEC (your leader, December 16) might help find a final solution to the permanent crisis of the last few years.

The UK would be in breach of EEC laws and, if a stalemate followed, as is likely, the outcome could well be the end of the present Community. This would allow the countries which believe in European principles to form another Community, with which Britain could negotiate a treaty of association.

Yours faithfully,
GIORGIO FRANCESCONI,
283 Westbourne Park Road, W11.

Towards a new gas industry

From Sir Kenneth Hutchison, FRS

Sir, The future of the gas industry is under discussion and decisions may have been taken already behind closed doors at the ministry. Even so I trust that it is not too late to offer some suggestions for consideration about the structure of the industry when it is returned to the private sector.

I write as the one-time chairman of one of the 12 original area gas boards, each of which was an independent and self-accounting body; together with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Gas Council we represented the corporate identity of the new gas industry in 1949.

The supply of gas is a natural monopoly and has been recognized as such since the Metropolis Gas Act of 1860 gave legal force to the many "districting" agreements made between the warring factions who had been laying their mains in the same London streets.

With the grant of monopoly went a right of intervention by the state and an obligation on the companies to supply: nothing much was changed by the Gas Act 1948. What remained was a keen spirit of competition between the area boards, each a monopoly supplier in its own area, headed up by persons of widely different origins, united only in the belief that his was to be the best board, the most enterprising and the most viable financially.

I believe that the gas industry of the future in the private sector can best be structured on the basis of 12 independent area boards, each small enough to be sensitive to the desires of its share of 15 million consumers of gas and large enough to maintain internally an efficient operational and management structure.

Each area board would be free to concentrate its efforts on improvements in service to its consumers while maintaining a sound financial base from which to service the public issues of loan stock and equity for which it would be individually responsible.

There should be a supply corporation, responsible as the British Gas Corporation is now, for procuring, producing, storing, and in the long term manufacturing, gas and for maintaining the transmission system by which to deliver gas to terminals in each area board. The terms and conditions of supply and demand should be contractually enforceable.

The corporation, like the area boards, would issue its own loan stock and equity and act in all respects as any other responsible oil company does except for a prior commitment to meet the area boards' demands for gas.

But *quis custodiet?* I will propose that there be established an independent regulatory commission with powers, inter alia, to determine the maximum price of gas sold by the corporation to the area boards and by the boards to the public in their respective areas of supply. There is nothing new in this; from the early days of the gas industry right up to vesting day there have been regulations designed to control the profits of the companies supplying gas. In the USA the state legislatures exercise control by energy commissions or other means.

The commission, as here proposed, would also have responsibility for authorizing the issue of loan stock, and equity when and if that becomes feasible and in the course of its duties would want to examine in depth the efficiency and performance of a board or the corporation.

I do not see why anyone should object to that, if only as the price of freedom.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH HUTCHISON,
2 Arlington Road,
Twickenham,
Middlesex.
December 16.

Catching the bus

From Mr Victor Peskett

Sir, You were right to highlight the plight of the people faced with the withdrawal of commercial bus services from 72 Norfolk villages (report, December 9), but perhaps too ready to follow the pessimistic forecast of the bus company's general manager.

No doubt, as he is reported to have said, private operators will find it no more economic than Eastern Counties to run loss-making services. But people can help themselves, as the community buses already operating in Norfolk demonstrate.

Our service on the Norfolk-Suffolk border is now in its fifth year of operation. Over 11,000 passengers have been carried on regular services which link 13 villages with five towns. All drivers are volunteers and unpaid, as are the organising committee.

The elderly and housewives left during the day without transport find such a scheme invaluable, and are not slow in expressing their gratitude.

Yours faithfully,
VICTOR PESKETT, Administrator,
Upper Waveney Valley Community Bus,
Huntsman and Hounds Cottage,
Metfield, Harleston, Norfolk.

Efficiency drive

From Mr C. H. Sisson

Sir, "If the (efficiency) initiative is to survive it must push to get recommendations delivered without losing its bite. The credibility barrier is establishing that good management is not optional." So wrote Ian Beesly, head of the Efficiency Unit (report, December 14).

So many words to say so little! If that is the blue-eyed Under-Secretary of 1983, the only prospect for Whitehall is of less meaning on more paper. Efficiency indeed!

Perhaps there was something to be said for a literate Civil Service after all.

Yours faithfully,
C. H. SISSON,
Moorfield Cottage,
The Hill,
Langport, Somerset.
December 14.

Temptation to meddle

From Mr C. P. Dalton

Sir, I was charmed by the picture of the refurbished platform at Charing Cross Underground station in your issue today (December 14). Waiting for the train could indeed be a pleasure in such surroundings.

But why, I ask, could not London Transport have put the murals on the other side of the track? The intervention of the electrified line might have at least deterred the many amateur artists who throng the Underground these days from adding the elements that Botticelli was careful to leave to the imagination.

Yours faithfully,
C. P. DALTON,
Coppice,
Kithurst Lane,
Storrington, West Sussex.
December 14.

US-Israel peace plans

From Mr John Stebbing

Sir, Your leading article of December 1 reveals very clearly the significance of the new agreement of strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel: it shows also the great importance of an effective revival of the Reagan peace plan.

Unfortunately, the first signs of a new approach to the problems of the West Bank and Gaza Strip are not promising. After his diplomatic success, Mr Shamir's perfunctory undertaking "to have another look at the Reagan peace plan" does not suggest that any strong pressure has been applied to him to secure a realistic reduction in the West Bank settlements.

Unless decisive pressure is applied Mr Shamir's review is likely to be no more than a brief ritual exercise; the West Bank situation would then be unchanged and the prospects of peace for *all* the peoples of the region soon extinguished.

This view is supported by the conclusions of the extremely competent, and quite independent, Benvenisti group of Israeli researchers in their first report (September, 1982) on the realities of the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Writing of land and land use, the group concluded that "The combination of land acquisition, closure of areas for military purposes and land use planning, roads and infrastructure development, has already ensured complete Israeli control over space in the West Bank".

A large proportion of West Bank water resources have been taken over and the research group has listed 1,000 military government measures closely regulating the life of Palestinians in the two occupied territories. The 120 Israeli settlements are planned to have a rural population of 100,000 by 1987: and the West Bank Higher Planning Commission is reported by the research group to have plans for 60,000 housing units for an urban population of 320,000, in eight urban settlements in the West Bank.

What appears to be needed, if a properly autonomous Palestinian administration is to be set up, is a concerted approach by all moderate Arab countries and the countries of the West to persuade the President of the United States to withdraw American support for this programme: to require Israel to dismantle all except for a negotiated strategic minimum of settlements (perhaps to be held under lease) in exchange for peace within recognized, guaranteed, boundaries which are defensible. It seems likely that every argument and leverage would be needed to achieve this, even including the possible curtailment of oil supplies.

The search for an honourable solution to this problem is exceedingly urgent. It is a matter which should not be put aside because of the presidential election; nor should it be the subject of an ineffective compromise for the sake of electoral advantage.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STEBBING,
Fair Beeches,
Burcot,
Abingdon,
Oxfordshire.
December 5.

Middle East auspices

From Dr. H. R. McKinlay

Sir, The white stork (*Ciconia ciconia*) has just completed its autumn migration south through the north Bek'aa Valley, oblivious of terrestrial distractions. Though Meinertzhagen says that their main route is east of the Anti-Lebanon mountains, flocks of 500 to 2,000 birds flew in at an altitude of 200 metres from the direction of the Lac de Homs, beginning on August 31.

Flying two kilometres east of Hermil they then circled in a clockwise spiral to 1,000 metres near the Hermil pyramid (Qanwat el Hermil), a tomb of a Syrian prince dating from the first century BC. South of El Ain they circled again before crossing the Anti-Lebanon mountains.

Flocks passed on this route on August 31, September 1, October 5, 12, 20 and finally on October 31, generally between 8.30 and 9.30am. Their only concession to current events is that for the past two years they have not flown over Baalbek.

Yours faithfully,
H. R. McKINLAY,
Hermil,
Bek'aa Valley,
Lebanon.
November 28.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 21: The Queen held a Council at 12.20pm today.

There were present: the Viscount Whitelaw (Lord President), the Lord Belstead (Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food), the Lord Gray of Contin (Minister of State, Scottish Office), the Right Hon Patrick Jenkin, MP (Secretary of State for the Environment), the Right Hon Sir Michael Havers, MP (Attorney General) the Right Hon Nigel Lawson, MP (Chancellor of the Exchequer) and the Right Hon John Wakeham, MP (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury).

The Most Reverend John Stapylton Habgood (Archbishop of York) was sworn in a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Sir Neville Leigh was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Viscount Whitelaw had an audience of the Queen before the Council.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the Save the Children Fund, this evening attended the Annual Carol Concert at the Royal Albert Hall.

Her Royal Highness, attended by Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke, was received on arrival by the President of the Royal Albert Hall (Sir Kirby Laing) and the Chairman of the Fund (Mr Giles Witherington).

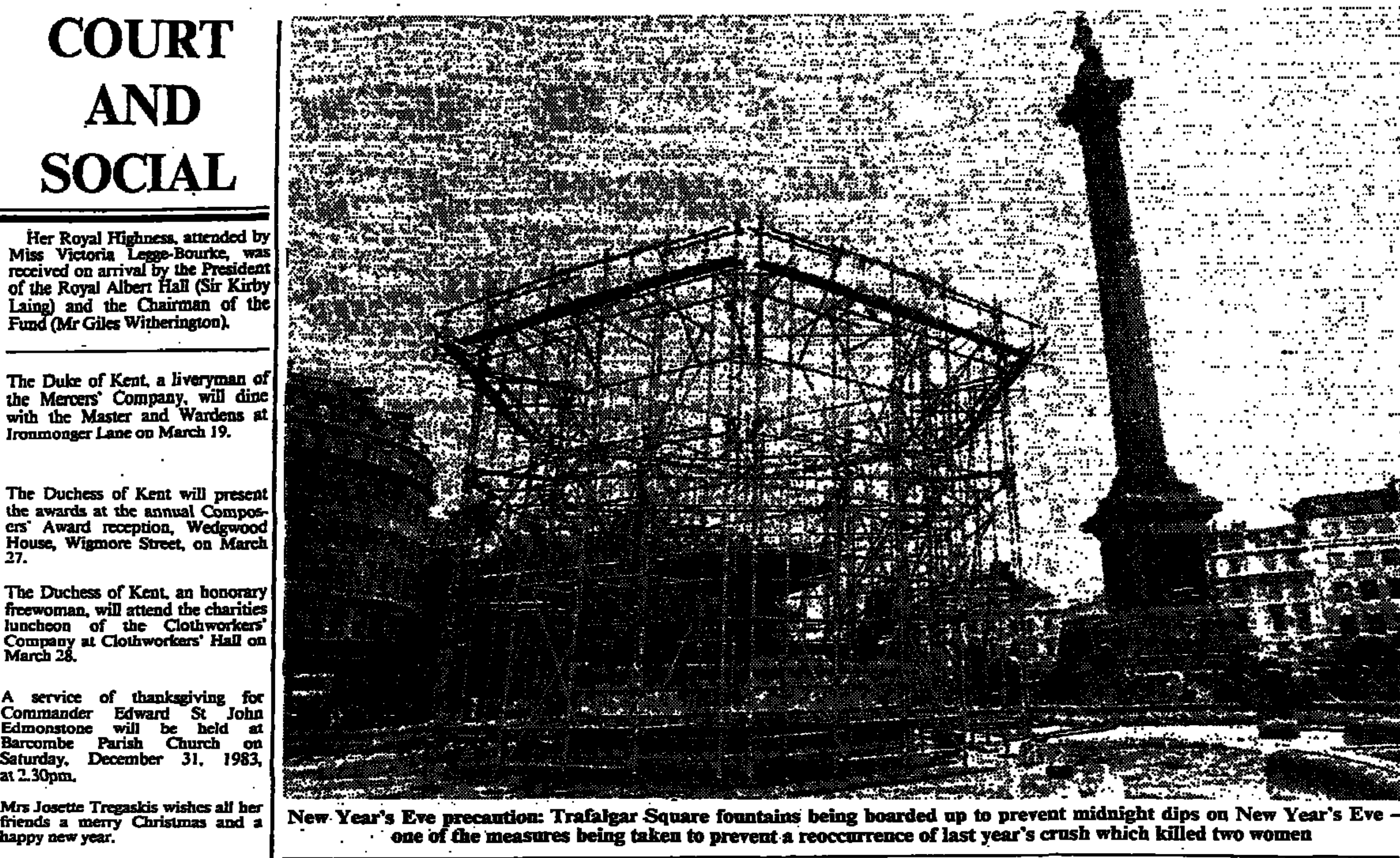
The Duke of Kent, a liveryman of the Mercers' Company, will dine with the Master and Wardens at Ironmonger Lane on March 19.

The Duchess of Kent will present the awards at the annual Composers' Award reception, Wedgwood House, Wigmore Street, on March 27.

The Duchess of Kent, an honorary freewoman, will attend the charities luncheon of the Clothworkers' Company at Clothworkers' Hall on March 28.

A service of thanksgiving for Commander Edward St John Edmonstone will be held at Barcombe Parish Church on Saturday, December 31, 1983, at 2.30pm.

Mrs Josette Tregaskis wishes all her friends a merry Christmas and a happy new year.



New Year's Eve precaution: Trafalgar Square fountains being boarded up to prevent midnight dips on New Year's Eve – one of the measures being taken to prevent a reoccurrence of last year's crush which killed two women

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. Balkwill and Miss C. Wild
The engagement is announced between James, youngest son of Mr and Mrs W. N. Balkwill, of Reading, and Clare, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs A. Wild, of Sonning, Berkshire.

Mr M. N. Butler and Miss S. C. Freeborn
The engagement is announced between Matthew Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs Philip Butler, of Hardon, Yorkshire, and Suzy Christine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Freeborn, of Hampstead Garden Suburb, London.

Mr M. W. Edwards and Miss C. Wenborn
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs B. E. Edwards, of Hope House, Little Burstead, Essex, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. B. Wenborn, of Lingwood House, Danbury, Essex.

Mr D. A. Harland and Miss F.E Maxwell
The engagement is announced between David, third son of Dr and Mrs R. W. Harland, of Belfast, and Frances, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. K. Maxwell, of Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.

Dr R. G. Rees and Miss J. C. Stevens
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Dr and Mrs E. G. Rees, of Shrewsbury, and Jill, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. J. Stevens, of Sutton Coldfield.

Mr K. J. Sowerbutts and Miss J. R. Josephs
The engagement is announced between Kevin, second son of Mr and Mrs J. Sowerbutts, of Penallt, Monmouth, and Julia, daughter of the Rev J. W. and Mrs Josephs, of Great Glen, Leicestershire.

Mr I. S. Cochrane and Mrs Blackwood Murray
The engagement is announced between Iain Scott, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. K. Cochrane, of Lasswade, Midlothian, and Susan M. A. Blackwood Murray, only daughter of Mr and Mrs A. W. Allen, of Long Melford, Suffolk.
The marriage will take place in Johannesburg in February, 1984.

Mr A. D. Irvine Robertson and Miss P. R. H. Stenhouse
The engagement is announced between Sandy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Alastair Irvine Robertson, of The Old Manse, Stirling, and Penelope, only daughter of the late Mr Hugh Stenhouse and Mrs Stenhouse, of Maxwelton, Dumfries-shire.

Mr R. B. Walsom and Miss S. C. Pitcairn
The engagement is announced between Roger, only son of the late Mr W. Walsom and of Mrs I. D. Walsom, of Hove, Sussex, and Susan, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. D. Pitcairn, of Claygate, Surrey.

Marriages

Professor M. Brawne and Mrs C. Baden-Powell
The marriage took place quietly in Bath on December 20 between Professor Michael Brawne and Mrs Charlotte Baden-Powell (née Neave).

Mr R. Cohen and Miss C. Enders
The marriage has taken place of Mr Ronald Cohen and Miss Claire Enders, daughter of the United States Ambassador to Spain and Mrs Thomas O. Enders.

Dr A. Porter and Dr A. Keymer
The marriage took place on December 17 at St. Andrew's Church, Blickling, of Dr Angus Porter and Dr Anne Keymer.

Dinner

Royal Society of St George
The Lord Mayor and Sir John Donaldson, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended the annual dinner of the Royal Society of St George (City of London Branch) held at the Mansion House yesterday. Mr Charles Fairweather, accompanied by Mrs Fairweather, was in the chair. The Rev Basil Watson said grace. The other speakers were Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, Mr Deputy Bernard Morgan, branch president, Sir William Woolf Harris and the Right Rev George Reindorp. A message was received from the Queen, patron of the society.

Christening

The infant son of Mr and Mrs Alphonsus D. Kelly was christened Charles William Tyrconnel by Father Tracy at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, on Friday, November 25. The godparents are Mr Michael Pearl, Mr John P. Kelly, Mr John des Forges, Miss Jacinta Curran, Miss Elizabeth M. Kelly and Miss Elizabeth Curran.

Reception

Mrs L. Leifland
The Swedish Ambassador and Mrs Leif Leifland were hosts at a reception held yesterday in honour of Professor Dame Sheila Sherlock and Dr D. Geraint James. Dame Sheila Sherlock, who has been elected honorary member of the Swedish Society of Medical Sciences, was presented with a diploma.

Luncheon

Association of Accounting Technicians
The President of the Association of Accounting Technicians, Mr P R Dallow, presided at a luncheon given by the council of the association at the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales yesterday. Representatives of the association's four sponsoring bodies were entertained.

Council to buy a king's monument

Cumbria County Council is to buy the monument to King Edward I in Burgh-by-Sands, on the Solway, from Lord Lonsdale. He had asked the council if it would be interested in its purchase at a nominal sum as it was now isolated from the rest of his estates.

The monument commemorates the death of King Edward I in 1307 when he died in camp while leading his army acros the Solway. It was erected in 1685, rebuilt in 1803 and restored in 1876.

Birthdays today

Air Chief Marshal Sir John Aiken, 62; Dame Peggy Ashcroft, 76; Mr James Burke, 47; Dr Alan Bush, 83; the Right Rev Cyril Eastaugh, 86; Mr Noel Edmonds, 35; Miss Patricia Hayes, 74; Air Vice-Marshal Sir Edgar Lowe, 78; Mr Michael Molloy, 43; Mr Chris Old, 35; the Rev Lord Sandford, 63; the Duke of Westminster, 32; Professor R. F. Whelan, 61; Colonel W. H. Whitbread, 83; the Very Rev J. H. Wild, 79.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Mr G. E. Moggridge, aged 54, head of information at the Export Credits Guarantee Department to be information officer in the Lord Chancellor's Department, a new post.

Mr Michael Ward, aged 52, former Labour MP for Peterborough, who works in the public relations section in the London borough of Lewisham, to be the new director of information for the Inner London Education Authority in succession to Mr John Dodge.

Air Commodore Philip Walker, aged 47, to be Director of Public Relations (Royal Air Force) on December 24 in succession to Air Commodore Richard Miller.

The following to be deputy lieutenants of Lincolnshire:
Mr C. L. Bembridge, Miss Diana M. Dixon, Mr O. R. Giles, Mr P. G. Hodgkinson, Air Vice-Marshal F D Hughes and Lady (Bridget) Maitland.

Dr Alexander Baynham, aged 47, Deputy Director (Systems), Royal Signals and Radar Establishment, Malvern, to be Director at Malvern from February 12 in succession to Mr A. Smart, who is retiring.
Mr Richard Wilding, aged 54, a deputy secretary in the public services sector of the Treasury, to be head of the Office of Arts and Libraries from January 3 in succession to Mr Mark Hodges.

The following to be trustees of the Science Museum:
Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi, Sir Robert Clayton, Sir Kenneth Corfield, Lord Downe, Mr John Duckworth, Professor Edward Hall (all of whom were members, with Mr Duckworth as chairman, of the Science Museum Advisory Council), and Mr David Attenborough, FRS, lord Brabourne, Mr John Harvey-Jones, Professor Sir Andrew Huxley, PRS, Sir John Lidbury and Sir Denis Rooke, FRS.




Miss Julia Cleverdon, director of education for the Industrial Society, who has been appointed the final member of the Government's new Schools Curriculum Development Committee.

Microcomputers in the classroom

Learning Latin without tears

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Children of 11 and 12 are learning Latin with the help of microcomputers at the Edinburgh Academy, an independent boys' school in Scotland which charges day fees of £640 a term.

Once a week they spend time in the computer room practising Latin verbs, translation and word order with programs written for them by Mr Jeremy Fenton, head of classics. One program, "Latin Invaders", asks them to shoot down the words of a Latin sentence in the correct order for translation.

"This is not a gimmick", Mr Laurence Ellis, rector of the academy, said. "It is a well thought out aid to teaching." Children learn the same Latin as they did before from the textbook *Ecce Romani*, the standard Scottish text, but they enjoy it more, he said.

For example, pupils still have to learn to translate such sentences as, "The girls run into the house", or "The girls walk into the garden", only now, with the use of animated graphics, they can actually see the girls trotting about. "It's really rather charming", Mr Ellis said.

Until last autumn term the microcomputers were used experimentally for Latin. Mr Fenton has now perfected his software and a set of eight programs is to be published shortly by Oliver and Boyd to accompany *Ecce Romani* Book One.

Totalling about 95k, the programs are of various kinds: two use graphics to illustrate Latin sentences; two test vocabulary; two look at nouns and verbs; and two demonstrate translation techniques. One program will make a reasonable attempt at translating into English almost anything typed into it to the standard of chapter seven. Most testing in the programs takes the form of a speed test or game.

All have been written for the BBC microcomputer, of which the school has eight. Mr Fenton says that Latin lends itself to computer-assisted learning because of its regularity and its system of inflexions, and the speed with which a computer can handle tables of data.

"Such programs are not a substitute for the teacher, but an additional help, supplementing the textbook, reinforcing things done in class, giving concentrated and tireless individual practice such as a teacher cannot give to a whole class."

Most of the boys in the first two years at the upper school use microcomputers for Latin in groups of two or three. Discussion is taking place in Scotland about the wider use of the machines in classics teaching

£11m aid for new life to Chatham dock

The Government is setting up a Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust, with £11m support when the Royal Navy dockyard closes at the end of March, Mr Neil Macfarlane, Under-Secretary of State and the Department of the Environment, has said in a written parliamentary reply.

As many as possible of the existing buildings will be restored to their original use, others would be converted and parts of the yard would be made suitable for new activities which would preserve and bring new life to it, he said. The complex will be open to the public.

Most of the 600-acre dockyard site will be sold, leased and redeveloped by the English Industrial Estates Corporation for a mixture of industrial, commercial and residential use.

But about 80 acres contain about 50 buildings or sites that have been scheduled as ancient monuments.

They make up an almost intact Georgian dockyard, including Medway House, the former residence of the port admiral which, dating from 1703, is the oldest surviving Royal Navy building.

Latest wills

Sir Dennis Charles White, of Lyndhurst, Hampshire, High Commissioner for Brunei, 1959-63, left estate valued at £186,443 net.
Mr Ronald William Mitchell, of St Anne's, Lancashire, left £863,723 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Beardall, Mr Cyril, of Epsom Downs £208,385
Dunn, Mr Alwyn Walter, of Clifton Campville, Staffordshire £243,795
Hawkins, Mr Gordon Henry, of Taunton £364,186
Small, Miss Vera Singleton, of Beaminster, Dorset £296,701

Library loans to benefit authors from February

By Bill Johnstone

Authors will receive their first royalty payments on borrowings from public libraries in February. The amount they get will be calculated by the public lending rights fund computer in Stockton-on-Tees.

Over one million book titles and 7,750 authors who have registered for the scheme will be stored on the computer. A total £2m is to be shared each year from the fund. There is a minimum payment of £1 for each book and a maximum limit of £5,000 for every author.

The first payments have been based on data calculated from a sample of nearly three million loans recorded in the first six months of this year from 16 sample libraries.

The country has been divided into seven regions and representative samples culled from each. When enough information is available payments will be based on 12 months' data.

As each book is borrowed its label is read electronically on the local library computer. That data is transferred to the central computer, which uses the sample to estimate each author's share of the 649 million loans made each year from British public libraries.

About 182 million of those loans are books by registered authors and illustrators.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev N W Alexander, Vicar of Frensham, diocese of Guildford, to be Vicar of St Mary's Hemsby, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev J C Andrews, Curate Burnham-on-Sea, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be Vicar of Williton same diocese. The Rev Dr E J Bailey, Rector of Winterbourne, diocese of Bristol, to be also an honorary canon of Bristol Cathedral, same diocese.

The Rev B P Barnes, Vicar of St Mary's Fishponds, diocese of Bristol, to be also an honorary canon of Bristol Cathedral, same diocese.

The Rev D Barton, Deputy Warden at the Church Army Hostel for Men, Cambridge, diocese of Ely, to be curate of Shepton Mallet with Doulting, diocese of Bath and Wells.

The Rev B W Broom, formerly Rector of Drayton and priest-in-charge of Felthorpe, diocese of Norwich to be team Vicar in the parish of Eckington with Handley and Ridgway, diocese of Derby.

The Rev Dr G L Carey, Principal of Trinity College, Bristol, diocese of Bristol, to be also an honorary canon of Bristol Cathedral, same diocese.

The Rev [illegible] Streatham, [illegible] priest-in-charge [illegible] Bath and Wells. The Rev [illegible] diocese of [illegible] newly-formed [illegible] same diocese. The Rev [illegible] Keynell and [illegible] with Slaughterford [illegible] West Kington, diocese of Bristol, to be also an honorary canon of Bristol Cathedral, same diocese.

The Rev A E Havard, non-stipendiary minister of St Matthew's, Rugby, diocese of Coventry, to be curate of Portishead, diocese of Bath and Wells.

The Rev Dr C C Knight, Chaplain at the Cathedral Church of St Mary the Virgin, Edinburgh, to be Rector of Lighthorne, Vicar of Chesterton, and Vicar of Moreton Morrell with Newbold Pacey, diocese of Coventry.

Prebendary L G Moss, Vicar of St Mary's, Marden with Amberley and Wisteston, diocese of Hereford, to be also a non-residentiary canon of Hereford Cathedral, same diocese.

The Rev J E G Oswald, priest-in-charge of Great Somerford with Little Somerford and Seagry, diocese of Bristol, to be also priest-in-charge of Corston with Rodbourne, same diocese.

The Rev B H Parry, Vicar of St John the Evangelist, Perry Barr, diocese of Birmingham, to be also Rural Dean of Handsworth, same diocese.

The Rev M E Percival, Rector, Coleford with Holcombe, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be Chaplain of Rossall School, Fleetwood, diocese of Blackburn.

The Rev R R Phillips, Vicar of Highworth with Sevenhampton and Inglesham and Hannington, diocese of Bristol, to be also an honorary canon of Bristol Cathedral, same diocese. [illegible]

Science report

High-speed links help research

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

High-speed telecommunications circuits have been the subject ot two experiments in Britain in which scientists have harnessed the advances in satellite and cable to communicate their research findings to each other.

The first experiment, just completed, took place in Manchester.

Scientists from Manchester University and UMIST (University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology) are evaluating the results of a nine-month experiment in which researchers in 10 countries were linked by satellite, exchanging information about the development of impoverished countries.

The biochemical word-wide link was created to encourage the usage of plant material (lignocellulose) as fuel, fodder and food among the poorer nations. Every scientist on the experimental network was able to have access to two computers through his own electronic terminal. Reports that were placed in the computers' banks could be called up in seconds by users around the globe.

The project began with the creation of two computer centres, one in Stockholm and the other in Ottawa. The former was set up by the World Academy of Arts and Sciences and the other by the International Development Research Centre.

The telecommunications network, which uses satellite and terrestrial links, joined the computers to centres in Manchester, Washington, Kuwait, Moscow, New Delhi, Bangkok, Tokyo and Frankfurt.

More than a hundred scientists, including chemists, biologists, chemical engineers, biotechnologists and researchers from the British Agricultural and Food Council have taken part in the exchange.

The first part of the experiment finished last week with scientists meeting in the network centres or nodes to have their own conferences.

With the network's aid the findings from each workshop were then relayed via the computers to the scientists meeting around the world.

A similar experiment linking several research establishments in Britain is just finishing its test phase. The network, called Project Universe, links the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, University College London, Logica, Marconi Research Centre, British Telecom Research Laboratories, Cambridge and Loughborough universities and the Department of Trade and Industry via the European orbital test satellite.

The Universe, like the Manchester world link, relies on the transmission of data at high speed. The British network is capable of sending via the satellite one million pieces of information in digital form every second.

At the end of March the project enters a new phase when the network becomes terrestrial and uses British Telecom's Megastream network designed for high-speed data transmission.

The research centres on the Universe link have successfully concluded experiments which have involved the remote control of robots and a range of complex data and videotex.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY AWARDS

The following entrance awards have been announced by colleges at Oxford University:

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE: [illegible]

ST HUGH'S COLLEGE: [illegible]

LADY MARGARET HALL: [illegible]

WADHAM COLLEGE: [illegible]

MERTON COLLEGE: [illegible]

EXETER COLLEGE: [illegible] Winchester. Law. Exhibition: E F Counsell, Bristol Cathedral S. Classics. Scholarship: I A Peel, Plymouth C. Exhibition: B N Hansford, Blundell's. Philosophy, Politics, Economics. Scholarship: J F Pollage, Dulwich C. Exhibitions: A N Thomas, Truro S; D G Tomlinson, Alton C. Modern Languages. Scholarships: D S Davis, Churchdown S; W Kenyon, Shrewsbury S. R F Kirby, Redland HS. English. Exhibition: M L Jones, Westminster. Mathematics. Exhibitions: P R Archer-Lock, Plymouth C; S L Dering, Weymouth GS; D C Pugh, Q Elizabeth's Hosp; S R Woods, Portsmouth GS. Chemistry. Scholarship: J W Swainger, Bristol GS. Exhibition: I J McDonald, Cheadle Hulme S. Physics. Exhibitions: N P Davies, Merchant Taylors' S; A F Tingey, Cricklade C.

Other university news

Leicester

Grants

Natural Environment Research Council: £47,071 to Dr A D Saunders to study geochemical evolution of volcanism associated with cessation of subduction zone activity in the Gulf of California, Mexico.
Science and Engineering Research Council: £48,100 to Dr G A Smith to study a variable speed constant frequency wind energy recovery system.
British Diabetic Association: £42,968 to Dr W Montague for studies of the mechanism of action of epinephrine on the secretory activity of the pancreatic B-cell.
Wellcome Trust: £42,679 to Dr S R Nahorski for studies of the properties and regulation of dopamine D_2 receptor-effector mechanism in the central nervous system.
National Medical Research Foundation: £36,000 to Professor H Simpson to undertake a Thiamine respiratory control project.

Bath

G. Diacogiannis has been appointed a lecturer in management.

OBITUARY

GWEN BERRYMAN
BBC's Doris Archer



Gwen Berryman, the actress whose portrayal of Doris Archer on *The Archers* made her one of the best-known and best-loved voices on radio, has died in a Torquay hospital at the age of 77.

She created the part of Doris, the shrewd, kindly, occasionally nagging farmer's wife, in the very first episode of *The Archers*, "an everyday story of country folk", which was broadcast in January 1951; and she continued to play it until ill-health forced her retirement in 1980, to the great sadness of the millions of listeners for whom "Doris" was almost a personal friend.

It was a tribute to Miss Berryman that while four actors have played her radio husband, Dan, there was never any thought of casting another actress in her role. In the early 1960s, when she was confined to hospital with arthritis, the rest of the cast came to her bedside and though in great pain she continued to record the programme as usual.

She became so completely identified with Doris that people would write to her asking after Dan and the other members of the Archer family. Her fan mail was considerable and she cheerfully accepted the responsibility of being one of the nation's most popular mother figures, though in real life she was neither married nor, for that matter, a countrywoman.

Gwen Berryman was born in Wolverhampton and made her first professional appearance in a BBC broadcast from Birmingham in 1926. She was then a singing student at the Birmingham School of Music and she later studied at the Royal Academy of Music where she won several awards.

She made her acting debut in A. P. Herbert's play, *Derby Day*, at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, when the actress she was understudying, Mabel Constanduros, deliberately feigned illness to give Miss Berryman her chance. She appeared with Gracie Fields in *Look on the Bright Side* and spent 14 years in repertory in Wolverhampton and other theatres in the Midlands.

Her first important radio part was in a serialization of Arnold Bennett's novel, *The Old Wives' Tale*, which was broadcast live in the BBC Midlands Home Service in 1948. Two years later she successfully auditioned for the part of Doris Archer and for the next 30 years it became her full-time occupation, not only as an acting job but a considerable piece of public relations for she was in continuous demand to make personal appearances and support charities.

During 1980 she suffered two serious strokes and it became clear that she would not be well enough to continue. By this time she was living in a nursing home in Torquay, though she had continued to travel to Birmingham for the programme. In October that year Doris died peacefully in her armchair at Brookfield Farm, and the mourning was not only for the character but for the courageous and unassuming actress who had played her for so long. On that particular evening the BBC paid its own tribute to her by ending the episode of *The Archers* not with its usual signature tune, but with "The day, Thou gavest, Lord, is ended", Doris's favourite hymn.

Gwen Berryman was appointed MBE in 1981.

MAJ-GEN R. A. HUTTON

Major-General Reginald Antony Hutton, CIE, DSO, OBE, DL, who died yesterday aged 84, was a meticulous staff officer and a bold, courageous and skilful commander, who took part in some of the most bitterly contested battles of the Burma campaign.

Educated at Haileybury and Sandhurst, he was posted to the 2nd KE VII's O Gurkha Rifles in 1917 and took part (with the 2nd Battalion) in the 3rd Afghan War and the Waziristan Operations of 1919. In 1934 he won a competitive vacancy to the Staff College, Camberley and in 1936 became Staff Captain Eastern Bengal Area, which had been formed to combat the Bengal terrorist movement.

In 1939 he was Brigade Major Rawalpindi Brigade for a year before going to the Western Desert and thence to Crete where he had to switch from the organization of its defence to its evacuation. In 1941 he became GSO1 East Africa Force under General Cunningham who would always remain his hero and exemplar for his amazing advance through Somaliland, Ethiopia to Eritrea, and it fell to Hutton to organize the reception of the Emperor Haile Selassie on his return to Addis Ababa.

In 1942 he became Deputy Director of Military Intelligence in New Delhi as a brigadier, but in 1943 he stepped down in rank to command and reconstitute the 3rd Battalion of his Regiment which had been split up into a number of columns on the 1st Wingate expedition and had returned from the raid into Burma in poor shape. By example, untiring effort, training and organizational flair he remoulded it in time to take it to the Arakan in 74 Infantry Brigade of 25 Indian Division.

There, in a difficult and prolonged battle on the crest of the Mayu Range, he captured a series of strongly defended Japanese positions, the routes to which he had personally reconnoitred alone with his orderly. For this battle he was awarded his first DSO.

Promoted Brigadier, he took over 51 Infantry Brigade in the same division. This was the first "all Indian" Brigade with Indians commanding all three of its battalions and filling all its staff appointments. He led it down the east of the Mayu Range using boat and animal transport to Akyab and thence by landing craft to a chaung bridgehead captured by 3rd Commando Brigade.

There it took part in the battle of Kangaw described in the official history as "one of the bloodiest battles of the whole Burma campaign". 51 Brigade fought a stubborn enemy in an exhausting and difficult battle lasting over a number of weeks and in the end defeated him. For this battle he was awarded a bar to his DSO.

After the liberation of Malaya he became, in 1947, Chief of Staff 1st Indian Corps and was later appointed Chairman of the committee dealing with the future of Gurkhas.

After India and Pakistan gained independence he served Pakistan as Chief of the General Staff and helped to form and organize the Pakistan Army from the disorganised units and formations thrown up with little equipment from the partition of the old Indian Army. All this had to be accomplished against the background of military action along the India-Pakistan frontiers.

He retired to Devon in 1951 where he served in the South Devon Home Guard, the Devon Army Cadet Force and the Devon Committee of the British Legion. He became a Deputy Lieutenant of his county.

Reggie Hutton was a dedicated soldier and throughout his 34 years' service in the Indian Army he studied his profession continuously and assiduously. However scathing he might be to officers senior to himself, he always supported those he commanded through thick and thin and his enthusiasm, military skill and steadfastness endeared him to them.

He married Margaret Feetham in 1934. She died in 1967 and he is survived by two daughters.

HENRY INLANDER

Henry Inlander, the Expressionist painter, died suddenly in Camberwell, London, on December 15. He was 58.

Inlander's highly individual manner of perceiving his subjects won him a reputation as one of the country's most original postwar Expressionists, and his work is exhibited at the Tate.

He was born in Vienna and came to England in 1938 when his family left Austria in the aftermath of the Anschluss. After the war he went to the Camberwell School of Art and from 1949 he spent three years at the Slade School. In 1952 he won the Prix de Rome and so began a connexion with Italy that was to last all his life.

He spent two years at the British School in Rome and continued teaching and advising in Italy, at the same time establishing himself in a studio in the village of Anticoli in the hills to the east of Rome. Here, though he also taught at the Camberwell School and spent periods in Canada and the USA, he spent his summers and autumns, and it was the valleys and the looming hillside of Anticoli which played such an important part in shaping his vision as a landscape painter.

He exhibited at intervals, at first with the Leicester Galleries, and laterly with the New Art Centre. His landscapes were noted for their swirling paint and richness of colour and perhaps his handling is seen at its most characteristic in studies such as "Olive Trees, St Rémy", "Stormy Mountainside" and "Flooded Meadow".

A Harkness Fellowship in America in 1960 and a year in Canada in 1969 brought him into contact with American painting, but the influence on him was only that of confirming him in his own principles, and he was always most at home in Anticoli where he was well known and liked by the locals.

He leaves a widow, Antonia.

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Why Merrill Lynch is thundering after Wedd

Earlier this month America's biggest investment brokers, Merrill Lynch The Thundering Herd–submitted and affidavit by Judge Robert Carter, presiding in the Southern District Court of New York. The affidavit throws new light on why Merrill Lynch and the equally eminent Wall Street house, Lehman Brothers, Kuhn Loeb are suing London's premier stock jobbers, Wedd Durlacher, Mordaunt for a total of just under $15m (£10.6m).

The documents trace the operations of Pastor Securities, which have left Wall Street and European institutions with depts well in excess of $25m (£17.7m). Pastor Securities, an American subsidiary of a Spanish company owned by Peruvians, sold 1.7 million "blue chip" shares it did not own on Wall Street in the expectation that they would fall in price; the shares would then be bought back at a profit.

The shares, in Getty Oil, Motorola and National Semi Conductor (NSM), rose sharply in price leaving Pastor with an open commitment to the American brokers, principally Merrill Lynch, who had acted for Pastor. The company could not supply Merrill with the shares sold on its behalf and to meet its own commitments Merrill had to buy them in at the higher prices prevailing, resulting in Merrill's suffering a net loss of $12.25 million dollars (£8.7m),and Lehman Brothers, Kuhn Leob $2.7m (£1.9m) – a combined total of $15m.

At about the same time, between August 24 and September 19, Pastor had commissioned Wedd Durlacher to buy through other leading Wall Street brokers 784,400 Motorola, Getty Oil and NSM shares. This was a million shares fewer than Pastor had sold short and none of them found their way to Merrill Lynch or Lehman Brothers. Neither the chief executive of Pastor Securities, Mr Rafael Pastor, nor the shares have been seen since.

Accounts opened

Merrill Lynch is claiming that the president of Wedd's US operations, Mr David Rochester, formerly with Cazenove and now an employee of Merrill, was doubtful about Mr Pastor's *bona fides* last June. It is therefore allegg that Wedd "knew or was reckless in disregarding the fact that transactions which were effected by Wedd Durlacher were part of a scheme to defraud Merrill Lynch, Pearce, Fenner & Smith and that Wedd Durlacher's participation in the scheme was essential to its fulfilment and, indeed, but for such participation by Wedd Durlacher the scheme could not have been effected."

Wedd strenuously denies the allegation which is basically centered on the evidence afforded by Mr Rochester. The English firm is seeking to have Merrill's case dismissed for being technically incorrect in presentation and because Wedd claims that at no time did it have knowledge that would cause it to suspect the nature of Mr Pastor's stock market trading activities.

The story really began last spring. Mr Pastor opened accounts with both Merrill Lynch and Webb, Durlacher. He then claimed to be a portfolio manager for wealthy European and South American families and an executor of "block" share transactions for major European and South American banks.

From that time until August Mr Pastor's market activities were cloaked by his having major firms deal against each other. In some instances, Merrill claims, he was buying and selling the same shares simultaneously.

The New York Stock Exchange has a five-day account period, at the end of which time shares sold have to be supplied and those bought paid for. Most brokers will allow an extension of a week or two in special circumstances, but the facility is usually for favoured clients. The 834,300 shares of Getty Oil, 374,900 shares of Motorola and 553,200 shares of National Semi Conductor Pastor had sold were not delivered on time but Merrill agreed to grant an extension.

Pastor said that National Westminster, Lloyds Bank or Manufacturers & Traders Trust would deliver the shares. Merrill waited until September 26 before accepting that it would have to buy the shares in at a loss. Within days Merrill sued Pastor Securities.

Memo sent

It was not until October that Merrill discovered that Pastor had been trading through Wedd, Durlacher. Using brokers like Salomon Brothers and Bear Stearns, Wedd, Merrill claims, was able to buy in the same shares at a price substantially below that which would have "otherwise prevailed." Merrill also alleges that Wedd claimed to be acting as principal, dealing for its own account, when, in fact, it was dealing for Pastor.

The basis of Merrill's allegations is a memo Mr Rochester went to the executive committee of Wedd, dated June 7, 1983. In it, Mr Rochester asks why Pastor was dealing through Wedd when it could have dealt direct. Why pay "high Commissions" for the privilege of dealing through WDM? "Pastor does not want to disclose his hand as a large dealer to any US brokerage house."

Mr Rochester also asks whether Pastor had hot money and was laundering it at arm's length from the IRS (International Revenue Service); whether Pastor was trading at arm's length from the Securities Exchange Commission, (unlikely); why Pastor was so anxious to keep WDM at arm's length; and why Bankers Trust stopped clearing for Pastor?

Merrill also asked why if, in June, WDM partners and employees had alreaady raised the question of why Pastor was using Wedd and had discussed "various improper and illegal motives that might underly Pastor's trading through WDM," the jobbers continued to execute large purchase orders on Pastor's behalf?

In Wedd's counter memorandum the jobbers argue that the very existence of the memo proves that they were not aware of any irregularity and in fact the memo "supports an inference exactly opposite that for which it is tendered by Merrill Lynch."

No comments

Although neither company was prepared to comment yesterday, it is clear that Pastor met its commitments to Wedd: it paid for all the shares that Wedd purchased on its behalf. The fact that WDM was kept at "arm's length" indicates, in Wedd's view, that it was not privy to whatever the Pastor was doing to which Merrill has taken legal exception.

In the normal course of American legal actions of this kind Judge Carter will either dismiss Merill's action against Wedd, and Merrill sustain the loss; or he won't, in which event an out-of-court settlement would probably be reached.

Whatever the final judgment in the case it is a pity that leading institutions in New York should have their horns locked with London's leading jobber. It might have helped had the Wedd partners agreed to the suggestion from their former senior partner, Mr R. S. Wilkins (now 70 and in as good form as ever) that he should act as a mediator.

Middle East buyers foiled in Kleinwort Benson raid

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

An attempt by unknown Middle East investors to build up a 10 per cent stake in Kleinwort, Benson, Lonsdale, holding company for one of the City's top merchant banks, fuelled speculation yesterday over the next big development in the financial markets.

Massel & Co, the stockbroking firm, moved into the market yesterday morning offering up to 395p for shares in Kleinwort, Benson's, 28p above the previous night's closing price. However the sortie came unstuck as the shares rose quickly above the offer price and Messel is believed to have managed to buy only about 200,000.

The shares closed up 56p at 423p, valuing the bank at £229m. Messel was acting for TWH Investment, a company registered in Netherlands Antilles with a wholly-owned London subsidiary which manages portfolios for private clients in the Middle East.

TWH said yesterday that it owned 2.82 million shares or 5.2 per cent of Kleinwort, Benson but denied that the stake was anything more than an investment.

Mr Philip Watson, a shareholder in TWH said the stake in Kleinwort, Benson had been bought on behalf of a couple of Middle East clients resident in the Gulf who were also shareholders in TWH.

He said the clients wanted an investment in a top quality merchant bank and they had known Kleinwort, Benson for some time. He said there was no intention to make a bid.

Asked whether they would be buying more shares, Mr Watson said: "I have no idea, that depends on my clients. I should think the apporoach would be to let the dust settle and see what happens."

At Kleinwort, Benson, Lord Rockley, a director of the merchant bank, took a relaxed view. "We know the people who are behind the purchase of the shares. They are longstanding banking customers", he said.

Lord Rockley said he believed the stake was simply an investment and was not worried about the possibility of a bid. "We are satisfied with their respectability," he added.

He would not be drawn on the bank's plans to cope with the shake-up in the City and financial markets. "We've formulated a lot of ideas and we've never publicly aired them. We'll just have to see how and when they get implemented," Lord Rockley said.

Kleinwort, Benson's disclosed profits have slipped from £22.9m in 1980 to £20.0m last year and are likely to be lower again in 1983.

The Bank of England takes a close interest in ownership of merchant banks and in 1972 it issued a notice in effect saying that its permission was required before foreign companies bought more than 15 per cent in a merchant bank.

"It is understood that banks will consult the Bank on all proposals for participations exceeding 15 per cent as early as possible and before any formal negotiations is undertaken; and that they will accept the Bank's ruling in each case and take no irrevocable steps in the meantime," the notice said.

Although the Bank might take a more relaxed view in the present climate, it is unlikely that would sanction a contested takeover of a merchant bank.

Index at 772 peak

The *FT* Index surged through the important 770 mark yesterday, fuelled by renewed selective support for leading equities. It closed the day 2.2 points up at an all-time high of 772.0.

Bid speculation produced good gains among the merchant banks and discount houses, where Kleinwort Benson was the subject of an abortive dawn raid. The shares ended the day 56p higher at 423p.

A firmer pound also provided late support for gilts, which, having been unchanged most of the day, closed with rises of about 25p. On the foreign exchanges the pound gained 30 points to close at $1.4225.

Market report, page 15

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 772.0 up 2.2
FT Gilts: 82.93 up 0.23
FT All Share: 488.05 up 4.18
Bargains: 20,005
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 95.5 up 0.4
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1248.27 up 6.30
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9717.65 up 89.72
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 857.56 down 0.97
Amsterdam: 158.3 up 1.2
Sydney: AO Index 758.2 up 0.2
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1024.9 up 3.7
Brussels: General Index 98.36 up 0.18
Paris: CAC Index 149.7 up 0.5
Zurich: SKA General Index 310.10 up 2.20

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4225 up 35pts
Index 82.3 up 0.4
DM 3.9450 up 0.0175
FrF 12.03 up 0.0450
Yen 344.25 down 1.0
Dollar
Index 130.9 up 0.1
DM 2.7715 up 0.0003
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4235
Dollar DM 2.7687
INTERNATIONAL
ECU£0.573235
SDR£0.732152

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 9-8⅞
3 month interbank 9¹³⁄₁₆-9¹¹⁄₁₆
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10⅛-10¹⁄₁₆
3 month DM 6⅝-6½
3 month Fr F 13⅞-13¹³⁄₁₆
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9¼
Treasury long bond 100⅞-100⅞
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period November 2 to December 6, 1983 inclusive: 9.350 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am $378.25 pm $378.75
close $378-378.75 (£265.25-265.75)
New York (latest): $378.00
Krugerrand* (per coin): $389-389.50 (£273-274)
Sovereigns* (new): $88.25-89.25 (£62-62.75)
*Excludes VAT

Panel sets deadline on bid for Eagle Star

By Our Financial Staff

The City Takeover Panel yesterday set a deadline of 4.30pm on December 30 for the final bidding in Britain's biggest ever takeover battle for Eagle Star Holdings.

The deadline was imposed after a full meeting of the 13-member panel, chaired by Mr Martin Jacomb, vice-chairman of Kleinwort Benson.

Mr John Hignett, director general of the panel, had called the meeting in a bid to resolve problems caused by the competing bids from the West German insurer, Allianz Versicherungs, and BAT Industries.

The panel was forced to announce the deadline and an amendment to its rules because of the unique nature of the bidding. The problems have been caused because the rival bidders have remained in the battle for Eagle Star for so long.

BAT Industries has the highest offer on the table with a 675p per share cash offer valuing Eagle Star at £934m, Allianz has offered 66p per share, which is worth £920m.

Under takeover rules, a bidder is not allowed to revise a takeover offer after the forty-sixth day after posting the last of two competing offers.

However, the panel has amended its rules so that each of the bidders is able to *announce* details of its final offer on the forty-sixth day (December 30) rather than *posting* them to shareholders that day.

The panel will police the bids by insisting that it should be given details of any offer at least 30 minutes before they are released to the Stock Exchange. The final date for posting the offer details will be deferred until January 4.

The panel said yesterday that no further exceptional provisions would be over the bid unless more exceptional circumstances arose.

On the stock market, Eagle Star shares rose by 7p to 729p, as dealers anticipated a fresh spate of bidding for Eagle Star. Shares of BAT Industries, which welcomed the decision to resolve the uncertainty surrounding the timing of the bidding, were unchanged at 128p.

John Hignett: called meeting to resolve bid problems

US – Italian agreement: Carlo de Benedetti, Olivetti chairman (left), with Charles Brown, A T & T chairman (right) and James Olson, A T & T vice-chairman, after announcing their deal in Rome yesterday.

A T & T takes 25% stake in Olivetti

From John Earle, Rome

American Telephone and Telegraph is to take a 25 per cent share in Olivetti, Italy's data processing company, through a $260m (£183m) issue of Olivetti shares under a wide-ranging industrial and commercial agreement between the two groups.

Signor Carlo de Benedetti, Olivetti's chairman, said in Rome yesterday that the deal was "the biggest minority investment ever made by an American company outside the United States".

The two groups will distribute each other's products in their respective markets. Olivetti will supply AT & T, over a 12-month period from mid-1984, with a new Olivetti-designed product – about which no details were given – to an approximate value of $250m.

The agreement also provides for joint development

AT & T's participation is being arranged through the issue of 100 million new shares. Signor de Benedetti has thus respected assurances, given to the French Government, that shares released by the recent reduction in French holdings (from the 33 per cent stake of Saint Gobain and Bull to the 10 per cent now held by CIT-Alcatel) would not pass into American ownership.

Control of Olivetti will remain in the hands of an Italian-controlled shareholders' syndicate.

The Americans have undertaken not to increase their investment in Olivetti for four years.

Judge rules on NCB pension fund

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

A High Court ruling yesterday could end the drawn-out dispute over the running of the *National Coal Board's* £2 billion pension fund.

The ruling was made in chambers during interim proceedings in the Chancery Division by Mr Justice Vinelott and may possibly lead to a full trial. Because of this, lawyers for the National Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers, the two parties involved; declined to comment and the ruling has not been made public.

The case was brought by the NCB's five trustees on the pension fund to seek permission to go ahead with an investment in a US company. The NUM's five trustees had argued that they needed time to consider the issue, but the court has been told that because of the necessity of a quick decision on the investment a court ruling was required.

The pension fund had wanted to make the investment under its previous strategy which is being continued because the NUM refuses to meet ot discuss a new programme.

The fund's trustees have always refused to reveal details of their investment plans because, they say, stock markets could be adversely affected if the fund's intentions were known in advance.

The NUM, using policy decisions by the Trades Union Congress to support its case, argues that it is wrong for the fund to invest in certain overseas companies and in industries which compete with coal.

No details of the investment involved in the High Court case have been released, but it is understood that the non-NUM trustees are anxious to continue the present policy of investing in the US bond market and in oil shares.

The eventual outcome of yesterday's *High Court ruling* could be that the NUM will change its policy and begin discussions with the other trustees on a new investment *strategy*.

US expects 4.5% growth

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The American economy is expected to grow at an annual rate of 4.5 per cent in the final quarter of the year, continuing its year-long recovery from the most severe recession since the 1930's, the Commerce Department reported yesterday.

Release of the department's preliminary "flash estimate" of the fourth-quarter gross national product marked a day of extremely good economic news for President Reagan, who predicted at his year-end news conference on Tuesday that 1983 would turn out to be a banner year for Americans.

Although the projected figures are sharply lower than the third-quarter growth of 7.6 per cent, they none-the-less represent a healthy growth, especially when coupled with the Government's new inflation figures, also released yesterday.

Polly Peck to raise £5m

By Michael Clark

Polly Peck, the international trading group headed by Mr Asil Nadir, yesterday announced plans to raise £5m to finance its expansion programme.

Mr Nadir plans to raise the money by placing shares, about 3 per cent of the equity, with unnamed Middle East associates who have agreed to take them up.

Shareholders are to receive a scrip issue on the basis of nine-for-one to encourage demand for the shares.

The proposals require the consent of shareholders at the annual meeting on January 12.

Mr Nadir said the placing of the shares - the maximum allowed - removed the expense of a rights issue.

News of the placing clipped 50p from the price at £27¾.

Profit leap at Lloyds & Scottish

By Our Banking Correspondent

Lloyd & Scottish, the finance house controlled by Lloyds Bank with Royal Bank of Scotland a minority shareholder, reported a big recovery in profits yesterday

Despite substantially higher bad debt provisions, pretax profits jumped from £12.3m to £22.4m in the year to September 30 and the annual dividend is unchanged at 3.87p net a share.

A change in accounting policy for regional development grants on leased assets has boosted profits by £2.3m and the previous year has been restated upwards by £1.6m but Lloyds & Scottish is falling in line with the generally accepted practice.

Lloyds Bank has long wanted to buy out Royal Bank's 39.3 minority stake in the finance house, but has been unable to reach agreement on price. However, on Tuesday Lloyds raised its stake in Royal Bank to 21.3 per cent to strengthen its bargaining position to gain the rest of Lloyds & Scottish.

Lloyds & Scottish is one of Britain's biggest finance houses and is particularly strong in hire purchase. It has been helped by lower interest rates, which averaged 1.6 percentage points less during 1982-83

The previous year profits were depressed by heavy financing costs of two acquisitions, Bowmaker and Hamilton Leasing. But a £70.5m rights issues this year helped to reduce that burden.

The group's gross assets rose by about a quarter from £2.09 billion to £2.56 billion with much of the growth coming from the consumer side. However, bad debts, up on both the consumer and corporate side, are believed to have risen by more than half.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Retail boom 'to continue into spring'

Britain's retail boom is set to continue at least until next spring according to the results of the latest survey of the distributive trades by the Confederation of British Industry.

The survey, published today, shows there was a widespread increase in sales in November compared with a year earlier. The rise was most marked among retailers, with a smaller increase noted by wholesalers.

A balance of 33 per cent of distributors are optimistic about business conditions over the next three months again with retailers heading the list.

● **Blue Chip** share prices forged ahead in early trading on the New York Exchange with the Dow Jones industrial average rising 7.5 points to 1249. Volume was about 18 million shares in the first 45 minutes of trading.

● **Fisdec**, a new venture capital business set up by Exco International and British and Commonwealth Shipping has invested much of its initial £6m of finance in four companies. Fisdec specializes in financial and information services and technology.

● **Du Pont**, one of Northern Irelands largest industrial companies, is to cut its energy bill by a quarter by converting its internal electricity generating plant in Londonderry from oil to coal, at a cost of £18m.

BSC in £2.4m merger with two producers

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Britain's three main producers of ferrous rolled rings, used mostly for railway wheel tyres, have agreed to a £2.4m compensation plan for the retionalization of the sector under a scheme that will lead to the privatization of another of the British Steel Corporation's activities.

The BSC and the two private companies, Woodhouse and Rixson (Holdings) and Inco Alloy Products, have agreed outline terms for the combining of their businesses into a new company to be called United Ring.

Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank which put together the proposals, will acquire 12.5 per cent of United Ring shares when the deal is completed, leaving the BSC with 75 per cent of the new company worth about £10.5m.

The scheme has been drawn up in response to the continued excess capacity in Britain for rolled rings, which also have applications in turbines and bearing cages.

Proceeds from sales of offshoots reaches £80m

BL sells Aveling to American

By Andrew Cornelius

BL yesterday sold its Aveling Barford construction equipment subsidiary, which employs 1,100 people at Grantham, Lincolnshire, to Mr Adrien Eschallier, an American entrepreneur.

The car group declined to reveal the price it received for the loss-making business, but indicated that the deal brings to £80m the proceeds from the sale of businesses since its recovery programme was launched in 1981.

Mr Eschallier, a former head of Gulf & Western's mining and resources division and a lawyer, is now chairman of Aveling. He said yesterday that among the priorities would be an expansion of overseas sales.

Mr Brian Hoare, the former chairman of Aveling, and Mr Roger Lockwood, the managing director, announced their resignations on completion of the sale.

The deal marks a milestone in BL's recovery programme by completing the sale of its peripheral activities.

BL's sales of Alvis, Prestcold, Coventry Climax and other businesses previously raised £53m, which indicates a price-tag of about £25m for Aveling.

The group has shed a subsidiary which has been losing money for the past four years.

The market for Aveling's dumper trucks, road rollers and grading equipment has declined sharply although losses have been cut in recent years.

Within the past 12 months the world market for this type of equipment has fallen by 20 per cent as orders have fallen from the construction and mining industries.

The fall in demand has been accompanied by a cut of 400 in the Aveling workforce and increasing emphasis on export sales, which now account for two-thirds of the company's £32m annual turnover.

Despite the problems Aveling has maintained its leadership in the dumper truck and road roller markets and to sustain sales volume.

Mr Eschallier has indicated that there are no immediate plans to reduce the workforce at Grantham, where the company is the largest employer.

Since leaving Gulf & Western after four years running 12 mines and five refineries with a turnover $300m each year Mr Eschallier has worked as a consultnat to several companies, while seeking out an opportunity to take over a company.

BL, with the sale of Aveling is able to concentrate on meeting its pledge to begin privatizing parts of the business in the New Year. Jaguar, Land Rover and Unipart remian favourites for early privatization.

BL has reported its first trading profits for four years after an improved performance from its volume cars division, where productivity has jumped by 40 per cent in the past year.

The trading profits of £1.3m in the first half of this year compare with losses of £61.3m in the same period last year.

GOLF

Women are given a big lift out of the rough by sponsors

Britain's women professionals will be playing for almost £400,000 next season – a large increase on the 1983 figure. Even more important, the standard of play should rise considerably as there will be 15 four-round stroke-play tournaments next year compared with only one last season.

The prize money has been increased through Hitachi sponsoring a revival of the British Women's Open with a purse of £140,000 at Woburn next October. But the PGA have virtually doubled other prizes, an excellent achievement considering that the women's circuit was in dire straits when they took over a year ago.

The circuit starts with the Ford Classic at Woburn in May and will go on until the middle of October. It also features a revival of the match-play championship, one Continental event – the Swedish open – and 16 pro-am tournaments.

Colin Snape, executive director of the women's PGA, said: "The tremendous increase in prize money in such a short period reflects the growing interest in women's golf throughout Europe. With more competition, the WPGA will continue to expand." Dates and venues:

MAY 2-5: Ford Classic, Woburn (£20,000); 17-20: Clandeboye Classic, Clandeboye (£10,000). JUNE 3: McEwan's Lager Manchester Classic, Heaton Park (£10,000).

JUNE 6-9: British Olivetti tournament, Old Thorns (£10,000); 13-16: United Friendly Tournament, Hill Barn (£10,000); 20-23: UBM Classic, Arcot Hall (£10,000); 28–JULY 1: Guernsey Open, Royal Guernsey (£10,000).

JULY 12-14: Caldey Classic, Caldey (£7,500); 25-28: J S Law Eastleigh Classic, Fleming Park (£10,000).

AUGUST 2-5: United Friendly tournament, Southport and Ainsdale (£12,500) 7-10: White Horse Whisky Challenge, Burnham Beeches (£10,000); 14-17: Colt Cars Jersey Open, Royal Jersey (£10,000); 23-26: Swedish Open, Molle (£17,500).

SEPTEMBER 12-14: Lorn Stewart Match play Championship, Sudbury (£10,000); 24-27: Sands International, Saunton Sands (£10,000).

OCTOBER 3-6: Hitachi British Women's Open, Woburn (£140,000); 10-13: Smirnoff Irish Open, venue to be announced (£15,000).

BOOK REVIEWS

Dreams to sustain us through the dark days

By Conrad Voss Bark

Around this time of the year fishermen ought to be tying flies, varnishing their rods and reading edifying books. There are several kinds of edifying books but those I am thinking of are those you take to bed because they will create dreams of what must be done at all costs in the coming year. An expedition to the Highlands, to the Catskills, to Taupo? A new and infallible fly? A new method of fishing it? Perhaps none is likely to happen, but the thought will keep us going through dark days.

The new guide books are of that category evocative of a place, of moods and feelings, as well as being instructive in a Michelin way. A whole chapter will be devoted to one river, or even a pool in one river, with advice on flies and tackle and where and how to finish it, provoking an appetite as well as satisfying one's curiousity about far-distant places.

Three admirable books of this kind have been produced this year; two are anthologies, one edited by David Barr, a peripatetic East Anglian, the other by my wife, and the third invaluable guide is by John Ashley-Cooper. *A Salmon Fisher's Odyssey* (Witherby £14.50). *West Country Fly Fishing* (Batsford, £9.95) are all good Christmas reading except that the Haig guide is poor on lakes.

Four fishing classics have been republished by Andre Deutsch, with pleasant laminated covers, at £5.95 each: Waller Hills's *A Summer on the Test*, Plunket Greene's *Where The Bright Waters Meet*; Chaytor's *Letters To a Salmon Fisher's Sons*; and C. F. Walker's *Lake Flies and Their Imitation*.

Fly fishermen are also poets. There is Ted Hughes's superb poem about the sea trout in *River* (Faber and Faber, £10), with photographs by Peter Keen. They are also artists; and Ian Niall catches the pure beauty of the line and form of C. F. Tunnicliffe in *Tunnicliffe's Countryside* (Clive Hollowy Books, £16.95).

BOXING: FORMER CHAMPION'S COMEBACK GOES FORWARD

Hearns wants Leonard rematch

Washington (AP) – Sugar Ray Leonard's first bout in his comeback after a two year lay-off will be against an American welterweight, Kevin Howard, on February 25, according to a WDVM-TV report here.

The television station says that Leonard will face Howard, who is ranked eigth in the world, on February 25. The revenue has yet to be decided.

Leonard, the former undisputed world welterweight champion, aged 27 was forced to retire after an operation to repair a detached retina. His doctors have assured him that his eye is now completely healed.

Providing that Leonard comes through his warm-up bout successfully, a rematch against the World Boxing Council (WBC) super welterweight champion, Thomas Hearns, looks likely. But, if the bout against Hearns does take place, Leonard wants thumbless gloves to be used as a precaution against any further damage to his eye. Whether Leonard would also want to use thumbless gloves against Howard is not known.

Hearns has himself recovered from an injury – to his right hand and is anxious for another bout against Leonard, who is the only man ever to beat him. Hearns attended a press conference in New York on Tuesday, to promote his first title defence – over 12 rounds – against Luigi Minchillo, of Italy. But he had Leonard uppermost in his mind.

"I want Leonard," he said. It is not hard to see why since Hearns reckoned: "That fight would be worth $20m."

But first, Hearns will have to beat Minchillo, the former European junior middleweight champion, aged 28, who has a record of 42 wins and two defeats. The venue of the bout, which is scheduled for January 27, has not been announced but it is likely to be in Las Vegas.

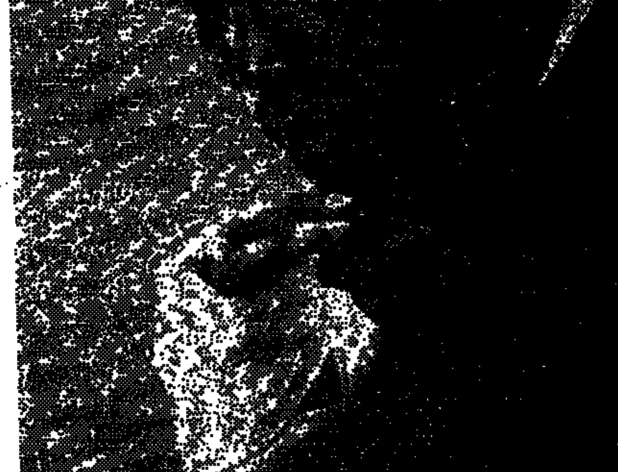
Hearns will also have to prove that his feared right hand is now fully operational. Hearns injured his hand when winning the world title a year ago. He acheived a points decision over the Puerto Rican Wilfredo Benitez, despite having to box the final rounds with two dislocated bones.

But Hearns, aged 25, says he is no longer worried by his hand. Neither is he worried about Minchillo. "I don't know anything about Minchillo at all, he said. That's best for me. If I prepared for him a certain way and he came out a different way I could be in trouble."

Hearns, of course, knows Leonard all too well. He believes Leonard can make a successful comeback despite the length of his lay-off and he still respects Leonard's skill. However, Hearns, referring to their 1981 bout for the world welterweight title, said: "I never should have lost that fight." Leonard retained the title when the referee halted the bout in the fourteenth round.

Hearns thinks that Leonard felt the urge to return to the ring after commentating on the recent world middleweight title bout between Roberto Duran, of Panama, and the American, Marvin Hagler, in Las Vegas.

Hearns said that Hagler, who retained his title by a unanimous points decision, would be an easier opponent that Leonard for him. But he prefers to take on Leonard because he wants a chance of revenge.



Leonard: doctors say his eye is completely healed

Holmes receives £16½m offer

New York (Agencies) Larry Holmes, who resigned his World Boxing Council heavyweight title last week, has been offered an estimated £16½m ($25m) to meet the South African, Gerrie Coetzee, the World Boxing Association champion, in New York.

The deal was disclosed yesterday by John Condon, the boxing president of Madison Square Garden, where the contest would be held. He said: "We'd put the fight on and take just 60 per cent of the gate. All the rest, the 40 per cent live and all the ancillaries would go to Holmes. We've figured Larry could come out with $25 million"

Condon and Holmes will reportedly meet within the next few days. Condon added: "Larry told me he's very interested in everything I told him and the last thing he said to me was, 'I'd like nothing better than to fight in the Garden agian.'"

If Condon's proposal is accepted, Holmes would be the Co-promoter of the bout with Madison Square Garden. The last time Holmes, who is 34, boxed in the Garden was June 22, 1979, when he stopped Mike Weaver in the 12th round of a title match.

A contest between Holmes and Cortzee, became a possibility when Holmes was named yesterday among the WBA's top five challengers in its December rankings. Gonaldo Rivera, the WBA ranking committee's chairman, said: Holmes had specifically asked to be included in the WBA rankings.

Holmes, unbeaten in 45 bouts, gave up his WBC title because he refused to meet hat organisation's official challenger, fellow American Bruce Page.

Holmes said he was joining the newly-formed International Boxing Federation, which is attempting to become a third world governing body for the sport.

Koopmans defends

Paris (AP). – The Dutch European heavyweight champion, Rudy Koopmans, will defend his title on January 12 in Marseilles against the French champion, Richard Caramonolis.

A country town on the doorstep of Europe

How Norwich round up prize scalps like Christmas turkeys

It is not every season that you can say "Yippee, I'm off to see Coventry play Norwich," but it was a fixture with something close to Match of the Day status on Saturday. And if the two clubs did only succeed in cancelling each other out in a match showing more bustle than the most *outrée* Edwardian lady of fashion, the fact remains that both clubs are still serious contenders for one of those treasured places in Europe after that 0-0 draw.

The Coventry salmagundi of incogruous elements mixed into a harmonious whole is one of the surprises of the season. What is surprising about Norwich is not their healthy place in the first division (seventh before Saturday's match) but the fact that they are in the first division at all.

Norwich are the top division's perennial underdogs. Football is a big city game; Norwich is a country town with a big cathedral. At this time of year Norfolk is a place more readily associated with increasingly nervous turkeys than with increasingly confident footballers.

But it seems that never a season goes by without the collection of a few prized scalps by the Chingachgooks of Carrow Road. If Watford amazed last season, and Coventry continue to amaze this, Norwich manage to find an amazing Saturday or three every season. True, they spent much of last season walking to heel behind the relegation dog-catcher and only jumped clear at the moment he swung his net, but they also did the double over Liverpool. At Norwich surprises are part of the roitine.

The theory used to be that it was the genius of the former management John Bond, and his talent for spreading not much Marmite on an awful lot of toast, that allowed Norwich to cling on to their improbable position in the first division. When Bond upped and went to Manchester City in October 1980, leaving Ken Brown, his No 2 in charge, it seemed unlikely that the usual seasonal miracle of staying up could ever be worked again.

"I've got a different approach to John Bond," Brown said. "He can be very, very demanding of players, and very frightening. I prefer to let players take responsibility for themselves, to enjoy themselves in a responsible, not a sloppy, kind of way. John was the kind of man who used to take the worries of management home with him every Sunday; I vowed I would never do that. But beyond that there were no special problems in taking over. I had always worked closely with John and know as much about the players as he did."

However, Brown's first trick as manager was to drop through the trapdoor to the second division, where you would expect the club to be by rights. But next season they were back up again: "It was a real nail-biter, that last match in our promotion season. We needed a draw at Sheffield Wednesday, but they scored a winner in injury time. Then the result from Leicester came through, and we were up anyway."

Brown's dealings on the transfer market mostly spring from the sale of Justin Fashanu to Nottingham Forest for £1m; the days of million-pound transfers seem so remote these days that we might be talking of transfer fees for Achilles and Hector. Fashanu provided cash for three £200,000 signings Chris Woods, the goalkeeper John Deehan and Keith Bertschin.

"We are a small club with a small squad of players, but I'm lucky with players who function in different positions," Brown says. "We have strength in depth through versatility and there are virtues in smallness with a closer-knit group of players. We operate a maximum wage here, too, and players who don't like it can go."

Being a football manager Brown expressed no surprise whatsoever in finding his team in so unexpectedly high a position after their six successive victories and one defeat in a run of 17 games. "It started with the last dozen or so games last season when we got ourselves out of trouble. I said at the beginning of the season you can check this – that we had the ability to win a place in Europe. I don't make predictions, but I still think we're good enough."

As the rumblings about a kind of intercity super league continue, it is pleasant to be reminded that incongruity is one of the most enjoyable elements in English football, not just in cup competitions, but also in the League, where we have such inter city sizzlers as Manchester City, Chelsea and Sheffield Wednesday trying to break out of the second division while the Norwich bumpkins are hanging on in there just seven points behind Liverpool.

Simon Barnes

IN BRIEF

McKeever turns his back on Bolton

Rod McKeever, of Bolton, one of the top scorers in basketball's National League walked out on the club yesterday and returned to New Jersey. The American, who has been with Bolton for two seasons and averaged 27 points a gam, decided he did not want to be with a losing team.

Bolton have not won a match this season and their promoter, Keigh Knight, said: "It will be difficult finding a replacement at this stage of the season to stave off relegation."

TENNIS: Jo Durie, Britain's No 1 woman player, is planning to rest for a month after a successful year in which she has risen 16 places in the computer world rankings to eigth. Miss Durie is optimistic that the next list will put her at No 6.

● Richard Whichello, of Kent, is the top seed for the court boys championship, sponsored by Prudential, at Queen's Club, London, from January 2 to 7. Seeded to meet Whichello in the final is his doubles partner, Ben Knapp, of Gloucestershire. Sarah Longbottom, of Yorkshire, is No 1 seed for the girls' event.

● David de Miguel, of Spain, eliminated John McEnroe's young brother, Patrick, 6-1, 6-2 in the second round of the Orange Bowl under-18 tournament in Miami on Tuesday. McEnroe, a semi-finalist at the Wimbledon junior championships earlier this year, was the third seed.

GOLF: Ted Dexter, the former England cricket captain, faces a difficult start to his defence of the President's Putter at Rye next month. He has been drawn against Alex Aldrich-Blake, the beaten finalist in 1980, in the first round of the tournament, which is organized by the Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society.

OLYMPIC GAMES: The Japanese Olympic Committee want to stage the 1990 Olympic Congress in Tokyo. The last Olympic Congress was held in Baden-Baden, West Germany, in 1981.

TABLE TENNIS – The Asian Table Tennis Union are to propose a championship involving teams from European and Asian countries. Union's executive committee, meeting in Bahrain during the first Asian junior championships, decided to approach European authorities with its proposal.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

هكذا من الأصل

FOOTBALL: BRITAIN'S LAST HOPES ARE LOST AS YUGOSLAVIA WIN EUROPEAN DECIDER

Hunt butt severely punished by FA

The Coventry midfield player, Steve Hunt, was suspended for two matches and fined £750 by an FA disciplinary commission in London yesterday for bringing the game into disrepute. He had been sent off for butting Steve Williams, of Southampton, in a League match at Highfield Road on November 26. Williams was taken to hospital for X-ray tests on a damaged cheekbone.

Hunt has already served a two-match ban, which is automatic after a sending-off. He has also paid a £750 fine imposed on him by the Coventry manager, Bobby Gould.

Gould appeared on behalf of Hunt at the three-man hearing yesterday and asked for leniency. He was accompanied to Lancaster Gate by the Coventry chairman, Ian Jamieson.

Part of Coventry's case referred to the fact that the Birmingham defender, Noel Blake, was last month suspended for one match and fined £200 for an offence similar to Hunt's.

None of the Coventry party nor the disciplinary commission chairman Les Mackay, would discuss the decision. But the FA's ruling seems harsh in view of Blake's punishment.

Ted Croker, the secretary, said: "I dont believe the disciplinary committee's decision was at all harsh. The punishment was given after full consideration of the facts. Steve Williams had extensive injuies, it was a serious offence and we could not ignore it.

"It was noted that the club had already taken action against Steve Hunt, but Coventry must realize that FA committees act independently. I think the punishment fitted the crime. There have been fines far in excess of £750 and will continue to be so until this violence is banished from our game."

Hunt had never been sent off previously. In 1979-80 he was suspended for one match for accumulating 20 disciplinary points.


Hunt: £750 fine plus ban

Injury-time goal deals fatal wound to Wales

By Our Sports Staff

Wales failed to qualify for the finals of the European Championship in France next June by virtue of a Yugoslav goal in injury time against *Bulgaria* in Split yesterday. With Wales just seconds away from qualifying Radanovic, a defender scored with a header to give Yugoslavia a 3-2 victory *and a place in the finals*. Wales were Britains last hope of a representative in the finals.

It was the second heart-breaking experience in a week for the Welsh *manager*. Mike England, who saw his team's hopes of qualifying plunge at Cardiff last Wednesday when Yugoslavia scored an 81st minute equaliser. England, who listened to the entire match yesterday with his ear cocked to a radio at his home near Prestatyn, said: "Before that winning goal *came I really* thought that we were going to France. My feelings when it went in are impossible to describe. I just felt sick, and that *is all I can say*."

Wales required a draw or a 1-0 Bulgaria victory for them to qualify with certainty. But as England and the rest of us knew *they had lost their real* opportunity at Cardiff last week. Not surprisingly it was the elegant Susic, outstanding then, who made the most telling


England: heartbroken

contribution against Bulgaria *with two goals in the 31st and* 52nd minutes.

Iskrenov capped several fine Bulgarian efforts when he broke away in the 28th minute, passed *the Yugoslav goalkeeper* Simovic and easily scored into an empty goal to give his team a 1-0 lead.

But just three minutes later, Susic rekindled Yugoslav hopes with a right foot shot from 12 yards that went in off the post.

Susic, who plays for Paris St Germain, put Yugoslavia 2-1 ahead *from a pass by* Vujovic. The Bulgarian captain Dimitrov, made it 2-2 seven minutes later. A free kick by Gospodinov from 20 yards was deflected by Simovic and Dimitrov picked up the rebound to score easily from close range.

Desperately looking for the winning goal, the Yugoslavs forgot about their own defence, leaving the Bulgarians with plenty of space. They duley created chances in rapid succession but they lacked the final punch.

There were some dangerous moments in front of the Bulgarian goal in the closing minutes, as the Yuglslavs surged forward. The decisive goal resulted from the Yugoslavs last effort, Vujovic crossing from the left and Radanovic leaving the Bulgarian goalkeeper stranded.

The goal brought pandemonium as Yugoslav players rejoiced with their 40,000 fans.

YUGOSLOVIA: Simovic; Peruzovic, Jesic, Katanec, Bazdarevic, Radanovic, Zlatko Vujovic, Susic, Zoran Vujovic, Gudelj. Sub (Halilovic), Mlinaric.
BULGARIA: Mihailov; Sirakov, Arabov, Petrov, Dimitrov, Zdravkov, Iskrenov, Sadkov (sub Borisov), Gochev, Gospodinov, Mladenov (sub Danov).

Group Four

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yugoslavia	6	3	2	1	12	11	8
Wales	6	2	3	1	7	6	7
Bulgaria	6	2	1	3	7	8	5
Norway	6	1	2	3	7	8	4



More silver for the jaded

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

The Football League yesterday squeezed a new trophy, the Associate Members Cup, into the fixture list. The tournament, for third and fourth division clubs, designed to enliven the second half of the season and to enrich the poor, will begin in February and end seven *rounds later in May*.

In listening to the cry for financial assistance, the League has ignored the voice of reason raised by Sir Norman Chester and his committee *nine months ago*.

"The problem is whether such a limited competition would prove attractive," the committee reported. "This season's experience with the Football League Trophy does not appear to indicate it has crowd-pulling power." Indeed. The total of spectators who attended the 55 Trophy matches could almost have been accommodated in Wembley *Stadium. The average attendance* was only 2,000 and fewer than 7,000 watched the semi-final and final.

The report added: "Any marked gains, except for possible sponsorship money, would be confined to the clubs who reach the final stage." Under the knock-out formula of the cup, which has yet to attract a sponsor, at least 20 teams will be involved for no more than 90 minutes.

The 48 clubs, divided neatly into North and South, will play the first round in the week beginning February 20 and the second three weeks later. The two highest scoring losers in each region will join the six survivors in the third round. The two finalists will eventually meet at the end of May, probably in a neutral first division stadium.

Sir Norman's committee also felt that "these additional fixtures would have to be fitted into an already full list.... It would mean clubs playing two home games within a week and recent experience appears to show that one or the other would be poorly attended."

Staged in front of an apathetic *public before the beginning of the* season, the Trophy offers one startling example. The terraces of Hartlepool were sprinkled with 962 spectators for their tie against Hull City and, four days later when Bradford City were their visitors, the attendance was 655.

The new competition will mercifully not be stretched by replays – the provision of extra time and then penalties will take care of that numbing possibility – but the schedule of Oxford United, for instance, is already beginning to bulge beyond reasonable limits. As clear leaders of the third division they must be favourites to win the new cup.

Yet, with more than half their League matches still to come, they have already completed 31 games and could end up by playing over 70. Jim Smith, their manager, said that he "did not mind about how many cups we are fighting for because you *don't get jaded* when you're winning."

He should beware. Oxford, who are in the fifth round of the Milk Cup and the third round of the FA Cup, are now aiming in four directions. And last season's evidence suggests that the busiest teams are not the most successful.

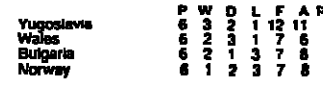
Sheffield United and Bradford City, each with 60 matches, led the third division in stamina but finished halfway down the table. Brentford, Lincoln City and Newport County, played 59 games with nothing to show for their durability. Portsmouth, the champions, completed only 50.

A similar picture was painted across the fourth division, where the *playing staffs are the slenderest of* all. Port Vale, with 49 games gained promotion, but Northampton Town, 58, and Peterborough United and Tranmere Rovers each with 57, went unrewarded. Hartlepool, involved in 56, had to suffer the indignity of seeking re-election.

Since the average third division squad contains 19 professionals and those in the fourth division only 15, resources are limited enough as *it* is. Smith and his fellow managers may welcome the extra income, but their fear of injuries is sure to increase.

The revenue generated is likely to be threadbare anyway. How many of Oxford's supporters, who have so far been treated to cup victories over Manchester United, Newcastle United and Leeds United, would willingly *travel* to, say, Rochdale on a wet February night? Sir Nrman would not be alone in thinking, "Not enough".

Toshack in line for swift return



John Toshack, the former Swansea City manager, is close to rejoining the club he left 52 days ago. Swansea's search for a successor to Toshack has lost momentum following Colin Appleton's decision to remain at Hull.

Preliminary talks have already taken place between Toshack and Doug Sharpe, Swansea's new chairman. A decision is expected today but if Toshack is persuaded to return it will almost certainly be at a salary vastly reduced from the reputed £46,000 he was on when he resigned on October 29.

Brian Clough, the Nottingham Forest manager, is expected to sign a new contract *with the club early in* the new year. Forest want Clough to sign for three years, but he said that, at 48, a two-year deal may be more suitable. Clough's present contract expires in July.

Elton John, Watford's chairman, yesterday he believed it was unlikely that Graham Taylor would be leaving to take up the vacant position at Highbury.

Taylor, who guided Watford from the fourth division to runners-up in the first last season, were quoted among the front runners for the Arsenal job, following the dismissal of the manager, Terry Neill.

But as he left Heathrow Airport for the Caribbean, Mr John said: "I don't think Graham will be leaving Watford. I've talked to him about this and I'm pretty certain that he will be staying. He has a contract to honour and as far as I know he has every intention of doing just that.

Preston North End are not in a hurry to appoint a successor to Gordon Lee, who was dismissed with his assistant, Geoff Nulty, on Tuesday.

Alan Kelly, the reserve team manager who has had temporary charge on three previous occasions in similar circumstances, will be in control for the Boxing Day match against Port Vale.

World Cup: 'two held'

Rio de Janeiro (Agencies) – Two men were reported to have been arrested in connection with the theft of the Jules Rimet Trophy, the original World Cup, here on Monday night.

Television networks alleged that the suspects were janitors who until recently worked at the headquarters of the Brazilian FA, where the trophy was on permanent display. The Rio de Janeiro State Bank, who insured the trophy, have offered a £5,000 reward for its recovery.

It is feared that the trophy might be melted down at one of the many clandestine foundries that operate in and around Rio. It contains nearly 4lb of gold worth about $13,000.

The nightwatchman at the Brazilian FA offices told police that a hooded intruder entered the building on Monday night, tied and blindfolded him, opened the bullet-proof glass display case and stole the trophy. Police called his story contradictory and said they suspected an "inside job".

Guilite Coutinho, chairman of the Brazilian FA, said that if the trophy did not reappear he would order an *exact replica to be reproduced from* a plaster moulding.

Oxford put up prices

Oxford United have again put up prices for their home match against Everton in the all-ticket quarter-final of the Milk Cup next month, guaranteeing themselves record receipts for the fifth time this season.

Ground admission charges go up from £3 to £4 and stand seats by 50p to £8, but the club are auctioning only 200 stand seats after being criticised for putting up to the highest bidders 1,000 ground seats *for the replay against Manchester* United.

Birmingham might sell Harford to raise money

Birmingham City are prepared to sell their leading scorer, Mick Harford, in an attempt to raise cash for new signings. Their manager, Ron Saunders, hinted at a price of £250,000 when he said yesterday: "The last thing I want to do is to sell *our better players, but it is the only* way to bring in the two or three fresh faces we need."

Birmingham have taken only four points from their last 10 League games, but have produced better form in the Milk Cup, in which Harford scored his ninth goal of the season at St Andrew's on Tuesday, night to force a replay with Liverpool at Anfield tonight.

Harford, Saunders's first big signing for Birmingham, in March, 1982, saved the club from relegation with nine goals in his first 12 games. The Sunderland-born forward has made three six-figure moves – Lincoln City to Newcastle United for £180,000, Newcastle to Bristol City for £160,000, and Bristol to Birmingham for £110,000.

The Birmingham forward, Hopkins, is expected to return *for the* replay. Hopkins, who has finished a three-match suspension, scored two goals in his last game, when Birmingham beat Notts County in a second replay in the third round of the Milk Cup. He is likely to come in for Kuhl, although Gayle starts a two-match suspension after tonight's game and could be left out.

After Tuesday night's game, the Liverpool manager, Joe Fagan, said: "Against every team we have met this season, we know that if we don't show fighting spirit, we are out. It has got more so than ever. There is no doubt about it.

"Nowadays there is no easy draw. Every manager seems to have a different attitude now. The organization and will to win seem greater than ever. But I am not against it, it *is a great thing*."

Even though Liverpool relinquished a first-half lead, secured by Souness's 50th goal for the club, Fagan was not too unhappy. "I always dreaded coming here as a player because we always got licked out of sight," he said.

"It is a place most clubs hate to come to. They give you nothing and you generally go home crying. At *least we are not crying. We all agree* it was a fair result."

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

European Super Cup
Second Leg
ABERDEEN (0) 2 HAMBURG (0) 0
Simpson 23,000
McGhee
(Aberdeen win 2-0 on aggregate)

MILK CUP
FOURTH ROUND
BIRMINGHAM (1) LIVERPOOL (1)

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Cup, third round: Bishop's Stortford 3, Metropolitan Police 1. Premier division: Hitchin 1, Slough 1; Postponed: Hendon v Billericay, Staines v Bognor Regis, Worthing v Dulwich Hamlet, Wycombe Wanderers v Hayes. Second division: Grays 3, Corinthian-Casuals 1; postponed: Horsham v Egham, Leyton Wingate v Dorking, Rainham v Tring, St Albans v Ware.
EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Saffron Walden 7, Thetford 0.
ESSEX THAMESSIDE TROPHY: Postponed: Barking v Leytonstone and Ilford.

Malvern and Chigwell break up on good terms

Schools football by George Chesterton

The Christmas term ended in a spate of local derbies. In the **Westminster-Charterhouse** match the Carthusians have been dominant in recent years, but this year Westminster came back well to draw 2-2 and put a satisfactory end to an improved season. Charterhouse only lost early in the term to **Malvern**, *who went undefeated for* the second year running.

Forest fought back feverishly against **Chigwell**. Three goals down at half time, they eventually lost 3-4. In C Elliott they had one of the outstanding players of the year.

Chigwell ended on a high note, winning the public schools six-a-side competition. In this, as he had throughout the term, R Tapper played a vital part.

Bolton lost 0-4 in their key match with **Manchester Grammar School**. It was not as one-sided as the score suggests and a few days later Bolton proved their worth by beating Forest.

QEGS Blackburn were as always a power to be reckoned with; three of their players – N Watson, C Dolderson and D Hunter – were selected to represent the public schools against an *FA XI* on Monday.

Shrewsbury were particulary pleased to draw 4-4 with QEGS in their last match even if the equalizer *had to come from* a penalty in injury time. Their young side gave them encouragement for next year.

The inter-insular rivals, **Elizabeth College Guernsey** and **Victoria** College Jersey, fought out a 4-4 draw in a force eight gale in the first leg of their annual contest. The Jersey school won 4-0 in the return match, with J Giles outstanding in defence.

Malvern's 10 school wins included a 3-1 win over their old rivals **Repton**.

Bradford won nine of their 14 *schools matches*, including their first win at Shrewsbury in 22 years and their first against Repton sice 1977. Somewhat surprisingly they lost their last match against **Highgate** whose young and inexperienced side must have been much encouraged by this result.

Eton went eight games in mid-season without conceeding a goal and had the rare experience *for a school side of playing under lights*. This was in the final of the Berkshire County Cup, in which they lost 1-0 to **Upton GS**.

Aldenham snatched a win against the run of play in their mach with Eaton, a success which *will* encourage another young team.

Millfield had a good season, with R Bail in goal and N Gates outstanding. They finished their *season with a 6-1 win over Forest* and last week reached the final of the taxes.

Lancing with much rebuilding to do showed determination, particularly in their win against **Alleyn's** when they came from behind three times to win 4-3. **John Lyon** was another school in the south east which made great strides during this season.

Ardiles in line for return

Osvaldo Ardiles is ready for his first full appearance for Tottenham Hotspur for nearly a year, against Arsenal at White Hart Lane on Boxing Day. He returned from a spell with Paris St Germain last season, was involved in a registration muddle, and managed only four appearances before suffering a serious shin injury against Manchester City in February.

Tottenham's assistant manager, Peter Shreeves, said: "He's now had *five preparation games, for after* coming on at Manchester United he played the next day in the reserves against Chelsea, and then on Monday in a friendly at Stansted.

"He's in the squad for the *Christmas period, looks fit and well*, and has a very good chance of playing against Arsenal."

Mabbutt, out for the last nine games with a pelvic injury, has been *told to rest for a fortnight before* atempting any comeback training. Archibald, who missed the United match with a hip injury, has a good chancof returning against Arsenal.

Arsenal are unlikely to have any of their five injured first-team players fit in time. Rix (Achilles tendon strain), O'Leary (hamstring), Robson (hamstring), Talbot (calf muscle) and Sunderland (bruised foot) are still unable to train properly. So the team which beat Watford 3-1 last Saturday seem likely to receive a vote of confidence.

CRICKET: AUSTRALIA MAKE SEVERAL CHANGES IN SQUAD

Wood (left) out of teams captained by Hughes (right)

Rackemann dropped from Test teams

Sydney, (AP) – The Queensland fast bowler, Carl Rackemann, has been dropped for the Australian team for the fourth and fifth Test matches against Pakistan. The Western Australian spinner, Tom Hogan, and the former Test opener, Graeme Wood, have also been omitted.

The Australian selectors have called up the New South Wales pair, Greg Matthews and Murray Bennett, both all rounders.

Rackemann missed the Adelaide third Test with injury after taking 16 wickets in the first two tests but has since declared he is fit. Rackemann, man of the match in the first Test, *must be regarded as an outsider for* Australia's Tour of the West Indies, starting in late February.

Bennett is an orthodox left-arm spinner and Matthews a right-arm off spinner. Both are competent batsmen.

The selectors have chosen a 12-man squad for the fourth Test at Melbourne, starting on Boxing Day and have added the Queensland *fast-medium bowler John Maguire* to make a 13-man squad for the Test at Sydney, starting on January 2.

Maguire took six West Australian wickets for 62 in the recent Sheffield Shield game. The Queenslander equalled his previous best Shield haul.

Matthews had been troubled by an injury to his right hand, which required stitching after stopping a hard drive in the Shield clash with Victoria in October.

Bennett, aged 27, a physical education teacher, is an opening bat *for his Sydney club, St George. He is* a former New South Wales Colts captain and toured Zimbabwe with the Young Australians in March.

He did not think he had a chance of being selected. "I thought Tom Hogan would be retained but felt that if another spinner was added it would be Greg Matthews," he said. "But I suppose the South Australian game in Newcastle, where I top-*scored in the first innings with 46* and then took five wickets for 15, might have tipped the scales."

Bennett and Matthews are strong prospects for the tour of the West *Indies. Matthews, aged 24, made his* Shield debut last season. His bowling has impressed critics with a high line and good length and he is a fine slips fielder.

SQUAD (v Pakistan fourth Test): K Hughes (Western Australia captain), R Marsh (Western Australia vice captain), A Border (Queensland), M Bennett (New South Wales), G Chappell (Queensland), R Hogg (South Australia), G Lawson (New South Wales), D Lillee (Western Australia), G Matthews (New South Wales), W Philips (South Australia), K Wessels (Queensland), G Yallop (Victoria).

Mohsin's century no help to Imran

Melbourne (Reuter) – Moshin Khan scored 104 not out in 152 minutes to guide the Pakistanis to an eight-wicket victory over South-west New South Wales in a one-day game at Griffith yesterday.

After the local team had made 182 for nine in the four hours' batting allowed to them, the Pakistanis raced to 182 for two, with Mohsin and Gasim Omar (64) adding 155 for the second wicket.

But Mohsin's effort, which followed his 149 in the third Test match last week, did not entirely suit Pakistan's cause, being partly responsible for denying Imran Khan an innings.

Imran was looking for batting practice before returning to the Pakistan side for the fourth Test, starting here on Boxing Day. The *Pakistan captain, who played his* first tour match last weekend after recovering from a stress fracture of the left shin, was restricted to bowling three gentle overs.

South-West batted well to reach 165 for five. Then Sarfraz Nawaz intervened with three wickets in 10 balls, leaving the Parkistanis with a relatively comfortable target.

They lost Mudassar Nazar, bowled by Gannon for six, but Mohsin and Qasim put the touring side back on course. When Qasim was bowled by Patterson at 161, the match was almost over

SOUTH-WEST NEW SOUTH WALES:

L Rosenow, c Salim b Tahir	37
P Duck, b Rashid	14
W Lamont, b Tahir	11
T Purcell, lbw Tahir	8
G Bennett, b Mudassar	39
T Harper, b Mudassar	31
P Davis, c Imran b Sarfraz	13
D Jackson, c Mudassar b Sarfraz	4
H Gannon, c Mohsin b Sarfraz	4
B McDonaldc not out	3
C Patterson, not out	2
Extras (b6, lb3, nb3, w2)	14
Total (9 wkts)	182

FALL OF WICKETS 1–27, 2–52, 3–65, 4–77, 5–139, 6–165, 7–165, 8–177, 9–178

BOWLING. Sarfraz 12-2-43-3, Rashid 7-2-21-1, Wasim Raja 7-1-15-0; Tahir 7-0-33-3, Imran 3-1-16-0; Mudassar 8-0-40-2

PAKISTANIS First Innings

Mudassar Nazar, b Gannon	6
Mohsin Khan, not out	104
Qasim Omar, b Patterson	64
Zaheer Abbas, not out	8
Extras (lb-1)	1
Total (2 wkts)	183

Imran Khan, Salim Malik, Wasim Raja, Sarfraz Nawaz, Wasim Bari, Tahir Naqqash and Rashid Khan did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS 1–6, 2–161

BOWLING: Gannon 9-0-47-1, Patterson 9 4-1-38-1; McDonald 6-1-22-0; Jackson 9-0-38-0; Harper 1-0-9-0; Davis 3-0-28-0

Early end to a match with single highlight

Trivandrum, India (Reuter) – The West Indians played out a draw with an Indian Under-22 XI on the final day of their two-day *match here* yesterday. The captian's Vivin Richards and Manoj Prabhakar, agreed to end the match early with the West Indians 321 for nine in reply to the Indians' first innings total of 239 for eight declared.

Only Jignesh Sanghani, named man of the match after his sparkling centry on Tuesday, shone in the game. His was ony the second centry scored against the West Indians in provincial matches on the tour.

Haynes and Richardson hammered a mediocre Indian attack for 102 for the first wicket in 66 minutes. But the pace could not be maintained.

INDIAN UNDER-22 XI: First innings: 239-8 dec (J Sanghani 104, Y A Khan 52)

WEST INDIES: First innings

D L Haynes l-b-w b Arun	45
R B Richardson c Prabhakar b Raman	53
A L Logie c Viswanath b Prabhakar	27
H A Gomes b Raman	51
M R Pydanna b Raman	48
E A E Baptiste c Prabhakar b Kumar	29
R A Harper b Kumar	8
I V A Richards b Raman	1
W W Davis not out	36
W W Daniel b Raman	11
M A Holding not out	8
Extras (b 1, l-b 3, n-b 2)	6
Total (9 wkts)	321

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–101, 2–112, 3–142, 4–207, 5–243, 6–259, 7–264, 8–265, 9–269.

BOWLING: Prabhakar 10-0-69-1; Jadav 5-1-41-0; Arun 8-0-38-1; Raman 25-6-60-5; Kumar 13-3-67-2; Rajput 5-1-22-0.

Fiji's offer is finally taken up

London, (AFP) – The Fiji Islanders, who have waited half a century for a visit by an England team, will have their wish granted when Bob Willis brings his touring *side to play in the new year.*

Countless invitations have been submitted to Lord's since Douglas Jardine's 1933 tourists to Australia called in at Fiji on their way home.

But their one arranged fixture was rained off and it has taken all this time to arrange another meeting between the two countries.

The main stumbling block to an *Engaind stop-over in the Pacific* has been previous tour itineraries. But with Bob Willis' side visiting New Zealand before Pakistan for the first time, Fiji is an ideal venue for two *warm up maches. At Lautoka on* January 2 and Suva on January 3.

IN BRIEF

Wilander and Arias may play in Los Angeles

Paris (AFP) - Mats Wilander, the Australian Open champion, could form part of the tennis showcase when the sport is demonstrated at *the Olympic Games in Los Angeles* next year. Wilander and Jimmy Arias, a leading American, have in spite of the fact that, as professionals, they will be ineligible when tennis becomes an Olympic sport again in 1988.

MELBOURNE (Reuter): John Fitzgerland's sudden loss of form is providing a worry for Australian captain, Neale Fraser, only four days before the Davis Cup final against Sweden here. Fraser believes Fitzgerald is too tense on court and has lost confidence since being eliminated [illegible] in the New South Wales Open [illegible] Sydney last week.

MOTOR RACING: Toleman Group Motorsport signed Johny Cecotto yesterday, thus completing their driver line-up for the 1984 Grand Prix season which starts in *Brazil in March. Cecotto, a former* world 350cc and 750cc motor cycle champion, will be partnered by the young Brazilian newcomer, Ayrton Senna, signed by Toleman 10 days ago.

FOOTBALL: The Scottish League yesterday signed a £60,000 sponsor*ship deal to cover the climax of this* season's League Cup competition. Skol Lager, part of the Alloa Brewery Company, will inject the cash into the two-leg semi-finals and the final, which is being televised live on Sunday, March 25.

CRICKET: Edgbaston, one of the best-equipped Test match grounds in the world, will have eight luxury executive boxes available for the *1984 season.*

Today's fixtures

FOOTBALL

Milk Cup
Fourth round replay
Liverpool v Birmingham

FA TROPHY: Third qualifying round: Hampton v Wembley, Hayes v Barnet, Leatherhead v Windsor and Eton.
FA YOUTH CUP: Third round: Ipswich Town v Millwall.

RACKETS

PUBLIC SCHOOLS SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP (Queen's Club, West Kensington, 9.0am).

MOTOR CYCLING

Roberts will not race in grands prix

Kenny Roberts, the former world 500cc champion, is to retire from grand prix racing. Roberts, aged 32, won three consecutive championships from 1978-80.

Roberts won all three titles riding Yamahas. Yesterday, he met Yamaha officials in Amsterdam and, presumably, explained his decision. A formal announcement of his retirement will be made by Roberts in Los Angeles today.

He will continue racing in the United States and at selected meeting in Europe, but hopes to spend more time with his family.

His place in the Yamaha team is expected to be taken by the Italian, Virgineo Ferrari. Ferrari will team up with the American, Eddie Lawson, who finished fourth in this year's championship. Another American, Randy Mamola, who finished third, has decided to quit *racing for a year until he can find a* more competitive machine. This year he was a member of the Suzuki team.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

European Championship
Group 4
YUGOSLAVIA (1) 3 BULGARIA (1) 2
Susic 2, Radanovic Iskrenov,
40,000 Dimitrov

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING MATCH: Canada 1, Mexico 0.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Postponed. Oxford United v Charlton Athletic.
DUTCH LEAGUE: Utrecht 0, Feyenoord 2.

SQUASH RACKETS

LONDONDERRY CUP: Third round. Lancing OB bt Hove CGS, 3-2.

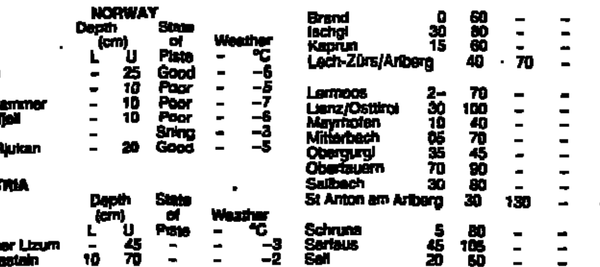
RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Public Schools Championship (HK Foster Cup): quarter-finals: A M Spurling (Tonbridge) bt J D Barnes (Rugby) 15-6, 15-8, 15-2; R Owen-Browne (Tonbridge) bt M L Carr (Radley) 15-2, 15-10, 15-5; E J B Popplewell (Radley) bt P Bally (Eton) 15-11, 10-15 15-12, 15-8; A C B Giddins (Eton) bt J A G Fawcett (Radley) 15-13, 15-5, 15-0. Renny Cup, third round: H M Ford (Charterhouse) bt D Gough (Haileybury) 15-4, 15-6; J D Hunter (Radley) bt R T A Novis (Harrow) 15-6, 15-11; S Heck (Haileybury) bt G D Parker (Manchester GS) 15-4, 15-4; M C Small (Eton) bt J King (Haileybury) w.o.; W M Fairbarns (Wellington) bt C D E Masson (Malvern) 15-7, 11-15, 15-11; M J C Smallwood (Tonbridge) bt J P Lewis (Eton) 15-8, 12-15, 15-6; J Heald (Marlborough) bt C D Hazlehurst (Harrow) 15-5, 15-4; C R Morris-Adams (Radley) bt R Graham (Marlborough) 15-3, 15-3. Incledon-Webber Cup (under 16) third round: J Owen-Browne (Tonbridge) bt J Waters (Tonbridge) 13-15, 15-12, 15-12; A W Saxton (Harrow) bt P D S Manson (Radley) 15-8, 15-2; P A Huxtable (Wellington) bt A Stahl (Haileybury) 15-4, 15-2; R C H Bruce (Wellington) bt J Palmer (Clifton) 1-15, 16-11, 15-11. Semi-finals: Owen-Browne bt Saxton 6-15, 15-5, 16-15, 10-15, 15-2; Bruce bt Huxtable 15-7, 15-8, 15-12.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to Resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Avoriaz	77	80	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-2
More snow good covering							
Davos	25	50	Good	Powder	Fair	Snow	1
Good skiing							
Kitzbühel	5	65	Fair	Varied	Closed	Cloudy	-2
Bare spoits on steeper slopes							
Mürren	45	60	Fair	Varied	Fair	Snow	-1
Thin powder on hard base							
Sauze d'Oulx	100	140	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-1
New snow on good base							
Val d'Isère	55	105	Powder	Powder	Good	Snow	-1
Powder on hard case							
Verbiere	30	70	Good	Powder	Fair	Snow	0
New snow most lifts open							
Wengen	15	30	Fair	varied	fair	snow	2
Most runs now open							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from other sources:



NORWAY

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Geilo	-	25	Good	-	-6
Gol	-	10	Poor	-	-5
Lillehammer	-	10	Poor	-	-7
Norefjell	-	10	Poor	-	-6
Oslo	-		Sring	-	-3
Rjukan	-	20	Good	-	-5

AUSTRIA

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Axamer Lizum	-	45	-	-	-3
Badgastein	10	70	-	-	-2
Berwang	45	75	-	-	-2
Brand	0	60	-	-	-1
Ischgl	30	80	-	-	-3
Kaprun	15	60	-	-	-8
Lech-Zürs/Arlberg	40	70	-	-	+1
Lermoos	2–	70	-	-	-1
Lienz/Osttirol	30	100	-	-	-4
Mayrhofen	10	40	-	-	-1
Mitterbach	05	70	-	-	-3
Obergurgl	35	45	-	-	-3
Obertauern	70	90	-	-	-2
Saalbach	30	80	-	-	-2
St Anton am Arlberg	30	130	-	-	-4
Schruns	5	80	-	-	-3
Serfaus	45	105	-	-	-2
Soll	20	50	-	-	-2
Wildschonau	15	80	-	-	-3

RUGBY UNION: WELSH CONTINUE CONTROVERSY OVER BANNED PLAYERS

Wales may still choose Perkins

John Perkins, the Pontypool lock forward who established himself in Wales's team last season, has been left out of the 34-man squad announced yesterday by WRU for their opening Five Nations' match against Scotland in Cardiff on January 21.

Perkins will, however be considered by Wales once he finishes a one-month ban after being sent off in a recent club match, the chairman of selectors Rod Morgan stated.

Jeff Whitefoot, the uncapped Cardiff prop widely expected to make his international debut this season, has also been left out of the squad after being sent off during last Saturday's Welsh Cup match against Treorchy.

The uncapped locks, Chris Booker (Cross Keys) and David Waters (Newport), have been preferred to Perkins, as has the British Lion, Robert Norster, even though he has been out of first-class rugby for more than six months since injuring his back in New Zealand during the summer.

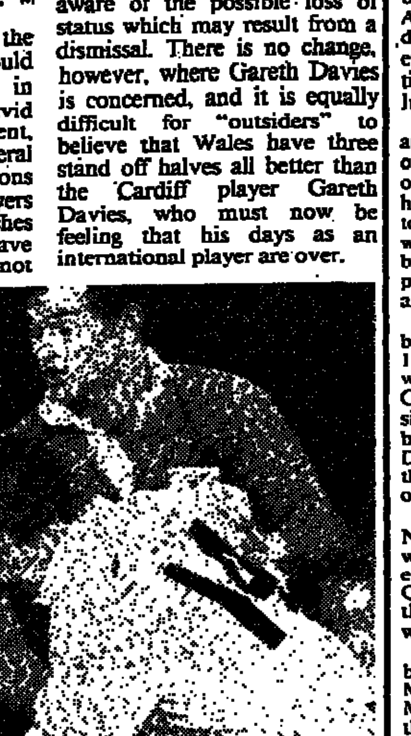
Newport's Mike Watkins, is back in favour after proving an inspired captain for Wales B. He could strongly challenge Aberavon's Billy James for the hooker's position and Eddie Butler for the captaincy.

There is still no place in the selectors' calculations for the former Wales captain and Lions stand-off half, Gareth Davies, who is only 27 and enjoying a vintage season with Cardiff.

WELSH SQUAD: Full backs: H Davies (Bridgend), M Wyatt (Swansea), G Evans (Maesteg). Three-quarters: R Ackerman (London Welsh), R Donovan (South Wales Police), A Hadley (Cardiff), K Hopkins (South Glamorgan Institute), C Rees (London Welsh), E Rees (Neath), D Richards (Swansea), M Ring (Cardiff), M Tutley (Bridgend). Half backs: B Bowen (South Wales Police), M Dacey (Swansea), G John (South Glamorgan Institute), D Bishop (Pontypool), M Douglas (Llanelli), R Giles (Aberavon). Forwards: C Booker (Cross Keys) E T Butler (Pontypool), A Davies (Llanelli), M Davies (Swansea), I Eidman (Cardiff), W James (Aberavon), S Jones (Pontypool), R Morgan (Newport), R Moriarty (Swansea), R Norster (Cardiff), D Pickering (Llanelli), G Roberts (Swansea), T Shaw (Newbridge), I Stephens (Bridgend), D Waters (Newport), M Watkins (Newport).

If there is one area where the four home unions should appear unanimous it is in discipline on the field, David Hands, Rugby Correspondent, writes. There have been several instances in the last few seasons of long-term injuries to players after Anglo-Welsh club matches and though England have maintained a policy of not picking players for international sides if they have been sent off during the same season, Wales have not followed the same line.

It seems particularly unfortunate that they should not have chosen to do so once more in the light of recent publicity given to incidents in the match between Moseley and Swansea. Even if it means the loss of players of international calibre for a season, players should be aware of the possible loss of status which may result from a dismissal. There is no change, however, where Gareth Davies is concerned, and it is equally difficult for "outsiders" to believe that Wales have three stand off halves all better than the Cardiff player Gareth Davies, who must now be feeling that his days as an international player are over.



Over to you: Glenn manages to get the ball away to the No 14, White, despite the close attentions of Mdawarima and Kayembe at Old Deer Park. (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

Zimbabwe Schools break even on tour

By David Hands

London Schools.................3
Zimbabwe Schools..........17

The Zimbabwe national schools side has trodden in the footsteps of the senior side which toured England in September, but with considerably more success. They therefore offer considerable optimism for their country's rugby future after concluding their tour at Old Deer Park yesterday, where they beat London by a goal, two tries and a penalty goal to a penalty and by doing so broke even for their visit.

They lost eheir opening two games, to Cornwall and Devon and to Lancashire, but beat Cumbria and lost to Scotland by only three points. Since then the touring side has blossomed, drawing with the strong Scottish Midlands and trouncing the Scottish Youth before the third win at the home of London Welsh - a pleasant homecoming for their Welsh-born manager Tom Reakes.

Zimbabwe have many of the virtues and faults of their seniors. They like to run the ball, but, under pressure, they concede too many penalties. It was London's misfortune that they could take little advantage of possession won here and from the set pieces though again it was very much a scratch side which met for the first time only yesterday morning.

The English schools representative season does not really begin to take shape until after Christmas so Zimbabwe, with six games behind them, had a vital edge in teamwork, particularly at the mauls and the lineouts, where they use Kazembe, a flanker and one of two coloured players in the side, at the front to good effect.

London had a heavier pack and did well in the set scrums, taking three heels against the head and picking up another ball as it squirted from the side of a retreating Zimbabwe scrum. But their midfield could create little, there seemed too much dependence on the incursions from full back of Hobbs, the captain, and too little time given to working space for a pair of useful wings.

In this respect Zimbabwe were streets ahead. Curtis, their captain, with the action of a greyhound straining at the leash, was a powerful runner who found several gaps and had a willing ally in Jacobs, who scored the first try. This came midway through the first half after a little kick ahead by Mdawarima. Roberts, last year's 16-group stand off, recovered a penalty before the interval but tries by Bailey and Watson from some splendid fluent back play emphasized Zimbabwe's superiority. The dependable Pohl, a full back who kicked off both feet and came into his line well, added a conversion and a penalty.

SCORERS: London – Penalty: Roberts. Zimbabwe – Tries: Jacobs, Bailey, Watson. Conversions: Pohl. Penalty: Pohl.

LONDON SCHOOLS: A Hobbs (Cranleigh, captain); D Toombs (Dulwich), K White (Haberdashers' Aske's, Elstree); A Roberts (Wycombe College), S Glenn (Great Cornard Upper); T Willis (Wellington College) P Morter (Godalming College), J Chatfield (Caterham) A Golding (Vyners), C Jennings (Kingsbury HS), M Upex (Netherhall, D Spink (Wellington College), A Kemp (St Paul's).

ZIMBABWE SCHOOLS: W Pohl; A Watson, J Jacobs, G Viljoen, V Mdawarima; D Curtis (captain), S Morgan; C Harley, G Zamudio, M Bailey, T Kazembe, K Butler, J Park, R Style, D Smith.

Glasgow McGuinless

Glasgow have made only one change in the side to meet South of Scotland at Hawick on Saturday from that which had a surprisingly win over Edinburgh at Hughenden almost a fortnight ago. Gerry McGuinness, West of Scotland's international loose-head prop, broke a bone in a hand last Saturday and will be out of acion for some weeks. His place has been taken by John Scobie, of Glasgow Academicals.

Glasgow must win to share the title with South, the district champions. The Borderers have won the title outright 12 times and Glasgow only twice. The odds, already heavily in South's favour, have become even shorter because of the absence of McGuinness, a key figure in Glasgow's recent successes in both tight and loose play.

Glasgow: C Mair (West of Scotland); S Munro (Ayr), A Ker (Glasgow Academicals), C Williamson, C Rowney (both West of Scotland); B Ker (Glasgow Academicals), A Service (West of Scotland); J Scobie (Glasgow Academicals), D Livingstone (West of Scotland), H Campbell (Jordanhill, captain), D Gray (West of Scotland), J Hamilton (Stirling County), G Angus (Kilmarnock), J Beattie (Galsgow Academicals), C McCallum (Ayr).

Park call in students

Rosslyn Park, who will be without six first team players over Christmas, have named two university students, both aged 20, for the home game against Coventry on Saturday. Vince Donnell, a flanker, and Peter Taylor, a No 8, are set to replace Montgomery, who has just had his appendix removed, and Ripley, who is on holiday.

No legal action

John Davidson, the Moseley forward whose rugby career has almost certainly been ended by injury, has ruled out legal action against the Swansea player who fractured his jaw and cheekbone on September 10.

Minister warns Welsh

Neil MacFarlane, the Minister for Sport, made an urgent plea to the Welsh Rugby Union yesterday to consider whether to go ahead with further matches against the touring South African youth team. As the tour got under way at Port Talbot, Mr MacFarlane warned the WRU of the implications for sport in Wales if the tour continued.

He told MPs during Commons question time that he regretted the WRU's decision to proceed with the tour despite the controversy it had provoked. "I would urge them even at this eleventh hour to consider the wider implications for sport in the Commonwealth and for sport in Wales. It is certainly contrary to the spirit of the Commonwealth declaration on apartheid in sport."

Mr Macfarlane's plea came after he had repeated the warnings about the threat posed to Commonwealth sport if a proposed tour of South Africa by an England rugby team next year went ahead. He said he would be speaking to the president of the Rugby Football Union, Ron Jacobs, before he and his committee meet to decide whether the tour should continue, to ensure they "fully understand" that at the recent heads of government conference in Delhi Britain's commitment to the declaration on apartheid in sport was reaffirmed.

"The RFU will be deciding in the spring as to whether this proposed tour should take place. I am in no doubt it would have damaging repercussions throughout the whole of Commonwealth sport", Mr Macfarlane said.

John Carlisle, Conservative MP for Luton North, called on Mr Macfarlane to promise that he would not "put any undue pressure or coercion" on the president and his committee over their decision.

RACKETS

Hard-hitting and hungry for a fight

By Willaim Stephens

Rupert Owen-Browne, the fourth seed from Tonbridge School, forced his way into today's semi-final of the H. H. Foster Cup at Queen's Club when he elininated Michael Carr, of Radley, 15-2, 15-10, 15-5, in a hard-hitting match of high quality. Both players showed what has been lacking among some competitors, a hunger for a fight.

Owen-Browne is one of the most outstanding exponents of the double-handed backhand stroke, a feature in schoolboy rackets which is becoming more common. With a power-base of precise services, double-handed from the right box, he attacks the ball fiercely and, with racket head well up, kills any loose ball with severe cuts.

Third-seeded Edmund Popplewell, of Radley, defeated Peter Baily, of Eton, 15-11, 10-15, 15-12, 15-8, although the loser looked initially to be in sound control. Popplewell possesses an excellent backhand service from the right side, but found it being returned with ease. He therefore experimented with the foul cutservice which flies up after striking the back wall.

This, and the overhead tennis service into the backhand court which breaks back into the side wall, is another recent feature of schoolboy rackets. This variation of services broke up the rhythm and confounded Baily who, leading 5-1 at one game all, lost his application and allowed Popplewell to advance to 14-6. He regained his confidence, but from then on was out of contention.

SKIING

Miss Wenzel races to her first downhill victory

Haus, Austria (Agencies) Hanni Wenzel, the slalom and giant slalom specialist from Liechtenstein, won her first ever women's World Cup downhill race here yesterday, edging the favourite, Irene Epple, of West Germany, into second place.

Miss Wenzel, aged 27, starting from sixteenth position, covered the ice-packed course in 1 minute 44.67 seconds, almost four hundredths of a second faster than Miss Epple.

Miss Epple, who won the downhill at Val D'Isère two weeks ago, started third and appeared to have the race sewn up as later starters failed to match her stunning time of 1 minute 45 seconds. But her second place meant she retained the lead in the World Cup Downhill standings.

As her fellow competitors congratulated her Miss Epple said: "I still can't believe I've won." She was right to be cautious, for as she spoke, Miss Wenzel was making an almost flawless descent.

"I never thought I could win here", Miss Wenzel said with a big smile. "I just let my skis run and they did the work for me." Maria Walliser, of Switzerland, who won the Sestriere downhill, finished a disappointing third in 1 minute 45.03 seconds.

Miss Wenzel's previous best downhill result had been her second place to Anne-Marie Proll, of Austria, in the 1980 Lake Placid winter Olympics.

RESULTS: 1, H Wenzel (Liecht) 1min 44.67secs; 2, I Epple (WG) 1:45.00; 3, M Walliser (Switz) 1:45.03; 4, M-L Waldmer (Fr) 1:45.36; 5, M Figini (Switz) 1:45.53; 6, B Oertli (Switz) 1:45.61; 7, C Attia (Fr) 1:46.04 (disqualified); 8, J Gantnerova-Soltysova (Cz) 1:46.10; 9, O Charvatova (Cz) 1:46.39; 10, H B Flanders (US) 1:46.51; 11, H Wiesler (WG) 1:46.56; E Kirchler (Austria) 1:46.56; 13, A Ehrat (Switz) 1:46.60; 14, R Moesenlechner (WG) 1:46.62; 15, V Wallinger (Austria) 1:46.75.
DOWNHILL STANDINGS: 1, I Epple (WG) 65 pts; 2, M Walliser (Switz) 48; 3, H Wenzel (Liech) 42; 4, A Ehrat (Switz) 34; 5, J Gantnerova (Cz) 28.
OVERALL STANDINGS: 1, E Hess (Switz) 123 pts; 2, I Epple (WG) 110; 3, H Wenzel (Liech) 72; 4, M Walliser (Switz) 66; 5, O Charvatova (Cz) 57
WOMEN'S TEAM: Standings: 1, Switzerland 317 pts; 2, Austria 184; 3, West Germany 172; 4, France 104; 5 Czechoslovakia 98.
NATIONS CUP: Standings: 1, Switzerland 760 pts; 2, Austria 578; 3, West Germany 212; 4, Liechtenstein 180; 5, Yugoslavia 154.

BOBSLEIGH

Swiss to puff on Soviet 'cigar'

Zurich (Reuter) – The Swiss bobsleigh team have obtained plans of the unew revolutionary Soviet sledge and aim to perfect their own version in time for the winter Olympics in Sarajevo in February. The Swiss Bobsleigh Association president, Erwin Brazerol, said that a local firm had undertaken to produce a Swiss version before the European Cup in January.

Mr Brazerol declined to say how he acquired the plans. "Suffice to say that I have them," he said. Known in Switzerland as the "cigar" because of its narrow build, the new sledge is not without critics who query its safety.

"They are more dengerous than the previous models," Mr Brazerol conceded but added that so far there had been no accidents. "Whether we can beat the Soviet team depends on how we race but at least we shall now be starting out with the same materials."

YACHTING

NZ lead stretched by a point

From John Roberson
Sydney

Despite struggling through a slow day, the British team dropped only one point to the leaders in the second race of the Southern Cross Cup, resailed yesterday after being postponed for lack of wind on Saturday. Jade (Larry Wooddell), Indulgence (Graham Walker) and Panda (Peter Whipp) finished fifth, twelfth and sixteenth, respectively, but we fortunate thayt all the other teams had mixed results, too.

New Zealand increased their lead by one point over the second-placed British, while in third place the Papua New Guinea team dropped a further nine points behind Britain.

The race was started in five to eight knots of breeze, which increased to 10 to 12 knots by the last windward leg, by which time Jade and Idulgence had recovered from poor placings on the first beat. The formboats of the series, Bandido Bandido, of Hong Kong, and Shockwave, of Australia, led a large group of boats out to sea on the first leg, which was the wrong way to go, and did not recover as well as the British boats, finishing twenty-first and twenty-second.

The best of the New Zealand boats in this race was Pacific Sundancer, who finished fourth. The rest of their team, Geronimo and Exador, were ninth and nineteenth.

The final short race takes place today and the Sydney to Hobart race takes place today and the Sydney to Hobart race, for triple points, starts on Boxing Day.
OVERALL: New Zealand 258 points; Britain 218; Papua New Guinea 201.

RACING: HOW THE BETTING OFFICE OF THE FUTURE MAY LOOK

Award to stud is richly deserved

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

The British breeders awards, now an annual event, will be presented for the second time in London on January 9 at a luncheon organized by the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association. The awards were designed to whip up support and enthusiasm in Britain with competition from the United State and Ireland getting hotter and hotter

The winners of 10 of these awards are known. The eleventh is a special one to the person who, in the opinion of the council of the TBA, has made a significant contribution to the British breeding industry. The winner of this award, which is given by the Duke of Devonshire, past president of the association, will be announced at the presentation.

The award to the leading British-based breeder of Flat racehorses for 1983, which is given by the Queen, will go to the White Lodge Stud at Cheveley, near Newmarket. This is singularly well deserved, not just because of Teenoso's victory in the Derby this year, but on account of the successful way that the stud has operated for 30 years or more.

Miss Peggy Pacey wins the National Hunt breeders' award, which is given by jumping's greatest enthusiast, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, thanks primarily to the achievements of Ryeman, who won the Arkle Challenge Trophy

The broodmare award, presented by Jim Joel, goes predictably to Mrs Moss, owned by Lady Tavistock. Mrs Moss achieved prominence thanks to the feats of her sons, Jupiter Island, by St Paddy, and the Gimcrack winner, Precocious, that fast son of Mummy's Pet, who gets the Barleythorpe Stud's award for the second year in a row. This goes to the British-based stallion with most individual winners on the Flat during the year in question.The continued success of his offspring *makes his death two seasons ago all* the more regrettable.

Exactly the same sentiment applies to Troy, who died in May. Troy became the leading British-based first-season sire, a position that is all the more remarkable for a Derby winner whose stock might be expected to excel during their second and third seasons. The award given by the British Bloodstock Agency to the leading British-based stallion in terms of prize money won on the Flat goes again to Mill Reef.

With Mighty Fly doing so well on the Flat last season and Combs Ditch shining under National Hunt rules, Jim Tory, their owner-breeder, thoroughly deserves to win the Langham Cup which goes to the small breeder of special merit.

Few will quibble with Joan Scott getting the Dudgeon Cup because she was the breeder of both Precipice Wood and Spartan General, who have figured consistently among the leading National Hunt sires despite intense competition in that sphere from Ireland. Precipice Wood himself wins both awards for the most successful British-based National Hunt stallion, one given by Col Bill Whitbread and one by the *Horse and Hound*.

A new idea (above) for the betting office of the future is likely to appear in three months' time. The system is to be installed by Mecca bookmakers, at first for the use of greyhound racing. The machines will be operated by the punters, who place their own win and forecast bets up to a £3 stake. The monitor is linked to a viewdata which supplies the runners. Once the selection has been made, the punter puts in his money and then punches in his bet, using three keys: one for the trap number, the second for the type of bet, and the third for the amount of money staked. From this punters will received a print-out slip, with all the relevant information, which can be cashed according to the result. Apart from the new technology the betting office will have an "authentic" approach with live trees and two-tone grass carpet.

Exciting prospects set to make winning debuts over fences

By John Karter

The meetings at Uttoxeter and Hereford today appear to have miraculously escaped the worst of the countrywide deluge that washed out Lingfield Park and Worcester yesterday. There are apparently no problems at either course and, although the fare is generally moderate, visitors to both courses can at least look forward to seeing potentially top class novice chasers, The Welder and Trust the King, tackling fences for the first time in public.

The Welder, who runs in the Ellastone Novices' Chase at Uttoxeter, won four times and was second in his five other races over hurdles last season. Providing he jumps proficiently, which he has been doing at home at Harewood, he should beat the more experienced but one-paced Gamble Hall and go a little way towards calming Michael Dickinson's frayed nerves as he awaits the Boxing Day showdown with Fred Winter at Kempton.

Mind you, it is not just big races that make Dickinson frantically finger his worry beads. Yesterday the now famous "Tones of Doom" were very much in evidence as Dickinson discussed The Welder's chance. "On his best hurdles form Gamble Hall would walk all over us." Dickinson said. "So we'll just have to wait and see."

Justifiable caution, perhaps, but Dickinson then gave himself away by admitting: "I thought training horses was difficult but upping them must be a lot worse."

Manfully ignoring the great man's ready-made excuse for racing correspondents everywhere, it does look as if Trust the King is something to bet on in Hereford's Caraway Novices Chase. A winner at Ascot and a respectable eighth to Sabin du Loir at the Cheltenham Festival last season, this powerful son of Menelek has always seemed made for fences and should be up to coping with the likes of Square Rigged and Double Base.

Nicky Henderson, his trainer, is well satisfied with Trust the King's schooling, but not so happy about a couple of other issues. Henderson could not understand why Steve Smith Eccles held Linawn up at Ascot on Saturday when the horse was a disappointing third to Aces Wild. When John Francome, who rode Aces Wild, won on Linawn at Cheltenham previously, the horse made all the running and Henderson did not give Smith Eccles instructions to ride a waiting race on Saturday.

Henderson is also far from pleased about the current handicapping of his New Zealand import, Antic, who runs in the Clove Chase, a conditions event, at Hereford. In his only two runs in England, Antic has finished a distant last of four behind Wayward Lad at Huntingdon and "won" a two-horse race at Nottingham when his only rival slipped up.

"The handicapper's gone bananas," Henderson said. "Antic won three bad races in New Zealand and he's never beaten a horse here. He's been given 12 stone in a £5,000 race at Newbury when he should be carrying 10st 10lb at a course like Wolverhampton."

Today Antic may be handicapped by the presence of the former Irish horse, Poyntz Pass, who never showed behind Fifty Dollars More at Cheltenham but had useful form before that. Henderson is also hopeful of a good showing from Ayad, Record Run's half-brother, in the Coltsfoot Novices' Hurdle on the experience of Welsh Oak, who shaped well when a close second to Allied Newcastle at Newton Abbot.

Returning to Uttoxeter, Jimmy FitzGerald's Sharpshod, just caught by Lucky Call on his reappearance at Market Rasen, should have the edge over the course specialist, Tamdhu while Ladycross has a sound opportunity to repeat an earlier course victory against poor opposition in the second division of the Norbury Novices' Hurdle.

Hereford

12.30 COLTSFOOT HURDLE (3-y-o: £937: 2m) (17 runners)

1	314033	THE THUNDERER (D) (G Brunton) P M Taylor 11-7	A Carroll
4		AYAD (J Evans) N Henderson 11-0	H Davies
13	3	GAMEGUARD (M McCormack) M McCormack 11-0	–
15		HOORAH HENRY (M Silver) D Nicholson 11-0	P Scudamore
16		MASTER CARVER (J Pegley) D Wintle 11-0	J Wathen 4
17		MR CHEDDAR (F Goddard) R Hannon 11-0	–
18		RARE DANCER (Mrs P Blackburn) Miss S Morris 11-0	M O'Halloran
19		REGAL SYMPHONY (P Ferrari) A Andrews 11-0	C Bourne 7
24		TIGRETTA (Mrs P Blackburn) Miss S Morris 11-0	W Smith
26	2	WELSH OAK (G Amey) D Gandolfo 11-0	P Barton
27		WINTER SPORT (M Myers) M Usher 11-0	C Brown
28	224	AMBER WINDSOR (D Lorimer-Roberts) R Juckes 10-9	Mr G Williams 7
29	p	AUNTY JOAN (T Rooney) J Roberts 10-9	Mr T Rooney 4
30		COLERANO BOY (P Doherty) N Gaselee 10-9	S Smith Eccles
32		HAGEN'S FOLLY (A Wilkinson) G Thorner 10-9	W Newton 7
33	2p	MOSSY BELL (P Gwyn) R Holder 10-9	N Coleman 7
34		SPEED UP (M Pearce) I Wardle 10-9	K Mooney

5-2 Hoorah Henry, 7-2 Welsh Oak, 6 Mossy Bell, 7 Amber Windsor, The Thunderer, 10 Ayad, 14 Gameguard, Mr Cheddar, 20 others.

1.0 COWSLIP HURDLE (selling handicap: £662: 2m) (14)

1	0p-	WHANGEREI (P McCann) D Wintle 5-12-7	A Wathen 7
2	00	SPECTRAL (D Roderick) D Roderick 4-12-4	Mr R Dunwoody 7
3	/00100-	SIR DORO (D) (Mrs P Long) D Haydn Jones 6-11-10	C Seward
5	30000-0	SOVEREIGN STEED (Mrs D Alcock) D Wintle 5-11-2	J Wathen 4
6	p/p0p-	RUSTY ROSE (D Evans) G Price 5-11-1	–
7	0020-00	GOLD FLOOR (Mrs R Bradley) J Bradley 6-11-0	G Davies
8	0p221-0	PETTISTREE (Mrs T Hassell) O O'Neill 5-10-12	M Caswell 7
11	0-00131	SEVERN SOUND (D) (J Bradley) J Bradley 5-10-9 (7 ex)	Miss S James 7
12	000-040	MR MYND (B) (G Buckingham-Bawden) J Wright 6-10-5	K Mooney
14	0300-p0	INDADO (CD) (B) (R Williams) R Williams 5-10-2	C Evans 7
15	000-	NANCYS BOY (Mrs E Fisher) P Ransom 4-10-0	P Warner
16	000004	SINGALONG JOE (C Popham) C Popham 5-10-0	J Suthern
18	p0p/0-	MONKEY ISLAND (T Nicholls) T Nicholls 5-10-0	A Carroll
19	p00r004	STRASS CHANDERLIER (P Power) W Turner 4-10-9	D Chinn 7

2 Severn Sound, 5-2 Pettistree, 6 Gold Floor, 10 Whangarei, Mr Mynd, 14 Singalong Joe, 16 Strass Chanderlier, Indado, 20 others.

1.30 CLOVES CHASE (£1,696: 2m 4f) (9)

1	41	ANTIC (D Samuel) N Henderson 8-11-5	–
2	p/01310	BALLYROSS (D) (Anne Duchess of Westminster) T Forster 12-11-5	H Davies
6	/00401-	COOLERIN BOY (D) (A Gregory) Mrs M Babbage 8-11-5	Mr N Babbage 4
8	32441-p	LATE NIGHT EXTRA (CD) (Lt-Col E Phillips) K Bailey 7-11-5	M Perrett
9	142-0ff	LEANDER BLUE (D) (Mrs M Rogers) D Nicholson 6-11-5	P Scudamore
10	331134-	LORD LEIGHTON (B) (CD) (S Hunt) L Kennard 7-11-5	C Brown
11	011230	POYNTZ PASS (D) (T Harty) P O'Connor 8-11-5	H Rogers 4
14	u0/0p0-	DAVIOT (B Arnold) J Thomas 9-11-0	M Williams
15	003303	DISHCLOTH (Lady S Brooke) Lady S Brooke 9-10-2	P Dever 7

9-4 Ballyross, 4 Lord Leighton, 5 Poyntz Pass, Late Night Extra, 10 Antic, 14 Leander Blue, 20 Dishcloth, Coolerin Boy, 33 Daviot.

2.0 CARAWAY CHASE (novice 6-y-o: £1,061: 2m 4f) (14)

8	214f00-	DOUBLE BASS (Mrs M Wiggin) T Forster 11-0	H Davies
10	001f3-f	GREENORE PRIDE (Andrew Baird) P O'Connor 11-0	S Jobar
13	0/0040-	LOTHIAN GENERAL (Anne Duchess of Westminster) T Forster 11-0	–
14	00f/	LUCKY GREEN (G MacDonald) D Gandolfo 11-0	P Barton
15	00-020p	NATIVE BREAK (R Edwards) Mrs W Sykes 11-0	–
16	/00000-	OUR SYMBOL (L Bevan) J Colston 11-0	Mr T Stephenson 7
17	00/00p-	SMART GUARD (H Ford) H Ford 11-0	–
18	3p4-124	SQUARE-RIGGED (Lady E Scott) A Turnell 11-0	E Waite
19	40p0-f0	STEPHEN LANGTON (B) (Lady E Nugent) D Nugent 11-0	–
20	002000	THE GUINEA MAN (I Wills) K Bailey 11-0	P Scudamore
21	40222-3	TOM TAILOR (Sir J Thomson) R Armytage 11-0	–
22	31302-	TRUST THE KING (Mrs K Seel) N Henderson 11-0	–
23	0-034f0	ANOTHER SPIN (Mrs J Hodgkiss) Mrs J Hodgkiss 10-9	–
24	0000-0f	MADAME KATRINE (Mrs L Warren) L Kennard 10-9	Miss S Pilkington

Evens Trust The King, 9-2 Double Bass, 6 Square-Rigged, 10 Greenore Pride, 12 Tom Tailor 14 Stephen Langton, Native Break, 16 Lothian General, 20 The Guinea Man, 25 Another Spin, 33 others.

2.30 COMFREY CHASE (handicap: £1,371: 3m 1f) (12)

2	131122	BASHFUL LAD (C) (Mrs F Parkes) M Oliver 8-11-13	DOUBTFUL
3	21/1f-p	UPHAM PLEASURE (R Brinkworth) D Gandolfo 8-11-10	–
4	23-03f3	NO PARDON (A Hobbs) A Hobbs 8-11-7	Mr P Hobbs 4
9	300314-	RIB LAW (CD) (M Spedding) J Wright 9-11-0	–
10	320314-	WOODLANDS LAD (P Pritchard) P Pritchard 8-10-11	–
13	3-02433	PUCKA FELLA (CD) (Mrs D Tucker) Mrs D Tucker 9-10-8	–
16	2uf2-p3	NORTHERN BAY (Twycross Ltd) T Bill 7-10-6	P Hobbs
19	0p1u4f-	LITTLE POLVEIR (M Shone) J Edwards 6-10-3	–
20	f0000-0	STORMY SPRING (Miss J Tainton) D Nicholson 6-10-2	–
24	/03pp-p	PLAYFIELDS (Andrew Baird Ltd) P Burgoyne 9-10-0	–
25	p212-00	DAVIDS FOLLY (Miss P Barnes) Miss P Barnes 10-10	M Bastard
26	0/01-p4	FARMER FRED (B) (R Blandford) M Scudamore 7-10-0	DOUBTFUL

9-4 No Pardon, 7-2 Upham Pleasure, 5 Rib Law, Woodlands Glen, 8 Pucka Fella, Northern Bay, 14 Stormy Spring, 20 others.

3.0 CORLANDER HURDLE (handicap: £1,017: 3m 1f) (17)

1	0231-0	COURCHEVEL (J Livock) D Tucker 5-11-12	–
2	4030-33	RIGTON BEAU (Miss C Coyne) G Kindersley 6-11-8	–
4	4ffp0-0	MENFORD (Shirlstar Ltd) K Bailey 6-11-4	M Perrett
5	3-0f030	WELSH DISPLAY (Placard Ltd) R Blakeney 6-11-3	P Hobbs
6	00-0400	BLEATHWOOD (R Jenneway) K White 7-11-1	John Williams
8	0302-00	LOST FOR WORDS (C) (Lady S Brooke) Lady S Brooke 6-11-0	P Dever 7
9	14410-4	DO OR DIE (Mrs L O'Neill) O O'Neill 6-10-10	J Suthern
11	p03300-	CELTIC TUDOR (D Smith) F Smith 7-10-8	Mr D Smith
13	040-010	MOUNTAIN MAN (Mrs Y Allsop) R Brazington 7-10-5	C Jones
14	4f0p0-e	ROBIN HOOD (Withers & Son Ltd) B Palling 8-10-4	C Evans 7
16	040-0p0	JYMARIO (B) (K Self) D Wintle 5-10-3	R Hyett
17	41f224	FREE CHOICE (Mrs M Oliver) M Oliver 5-10-2	P Barton
18	r002/00	GILLIGAN (G Hurd) J Thomas 8-10-1	M Williams
19	003	HANSELS MUSIC (Harlow Bros) P O'Connor 5-10-0	S McDonald 7
20	b00000-	MARCUS AGRIPPA (N Stephens) Mrs E Kennard 7-10-0	P Warner
21	/0-0300	FITZGAYLE (A Darlington) D Barons 5-10-0	W Smith
22	0300-00	CHOCOLATE DROP (Mrs R Williams) J Edwards 5-10-0	W Knox 7

4 Do Or Die, 5 Rigton Beau, Courcheval, 6 Free Choice, 10 Bleathwood, Menford, 12 Welsh Display, Mountain Man, 16 Lost For Words, Hansels Music, 20 Fitzgayle, 25 others.

Hereford selections

By John Karter

12.30 Welsh Oak, 1.0 Severn Sound, 1.30 Poyntz Pass, 2.0 Trust The King, 2.30 Rib Law, 3.0 Do Or Die.

Uttoxeter

12.45 NORBURY HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £690: 2m 1f) (20 runners)

2	034-001-21	HAYAKAZE (Ld Vestey) D Nicholson 4-11-2	N Madden
5		BRIAN'S BUCK (N McGrady) Mrs M Rimell 5-10-12	S Morshead
10		HOW ABOUT THAT (Hillfields Ltd) E Witts 5-10-12	C Mann 4
11		MERITOUS (D Hill) T Taylor 8-10-12	W Morris 4
12	0/0	PEGASOS (S Foat) R Peacock 6-10-12	R Crank
13	3-0	STRATH LEADER (Mrs C Fairbairn J Edwards 5-10-12	P Warner
14	403/00-	WILLOW RED (M Williams) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-12	Mr M Pitman 7
17	00-	CITRUS (A Chadwick) D McCain 4-10-9	K Doolan 7
19	p	DRAGUNN (Gunn-Hughes Ltd) M Tate 4-10-9	J Bryan
20	0	FLUTTERVILLE (Miss N Taylor) R Peacock 4-10-9	S J O'Neill
21	04-0f	KEEP SMILING (J Jarrouneau) L Lightbrown 4-10-9	S Johnson
22		LUCKY CHOICE (J Turner) C Spares 4-10-9	K Sims 7
23	022-p00	ORP BALTIC (P Bennett) E Alston 4-10-9	M Brisbourne
25	03-	RUBY AND SAPPHIRE (B Cambidge) B Cambidge 4-10-9	Mr J Cambridge 4
26	033430	ANOTHER SPECIAL (G Parker) W Francis 5-10-7	K Teelan 7
28	00/	MISS BELL (Mrs M Price) B Preece 7-10-7	P Double
29		BASTA (J Bigg) R Hollinshead 4-10-4	J J O'Neill
30		MAGJOY (Miss D Clinton) C Wardman 4-10-4	–
31	10	ONAEA (H Collins) Mrs M Rimell 4-10-4	Mr A Sharpe 4
33	00/00-0	SPACE SPEAKER (Mrs M Bridgwater) K Bridgwater 4-10-4	W Worthington

9-4 Hayakaze, 4 Strath Leader, 9-2 Brian's Buck, 11-2 Willow Red, 6 Basta, 8 Onaea.

1.15 TUTBURY CHASE (Handicap: conditional jockeys: £1,299: 3m 2f) (12)

1	22fu3-2	HONOURABLE MAN (D) (Mrs P Russell) Mrs P Russell 10-11-12	K Jones
4	121/3-0	CROSA (CD) (S Jones) J Fox 8-11-2	S Moore
5	322-211	TAMDHU (CD) (H Dale) P Bevan 10-11-0	G Charles-Jones
6	00211-2	SHARPSHOD (Frosts Garden Centre) J FitzGerald 7-10-13	C Bell
8	03p-004	WREMANDO (CD) (E Price) P O'Connor 9-10-9	T Donnelly 7
9	203-430	TANIA'S LAD (CD) (W Moss) W Francis 9-10-8	C Cowley 7
10	00003/3	IMMIGRATE (W Stevenson-Taylor) G Richards 10-10-7	D Coakley
12	pp102-0	GARRICK SWAINE (CD) (Miss G Jennings) Miss G Jennings 10-10-7	P Farrell 7
16	up0f2/p	BUSKRULLAGH (P Waring) T Bill 12-10-7	–
17	210-0f3	STRAWHILL (Mrs L Ford) E Alston 8-10-7	R Balfour 7
19	03p-4uf	MR LARK (S Drage) Mrs K Coulman 9-10-7	C McIlletrick
20	p0f303	ELROY (D Squire) B Preece 7-10-7	M Dixon 7

2 Tamdhu, 5-2 Honourable Man, 4 Sharpshod, 5 Immigrate, 10 Strawhill, 14 others.

1.45 DENSTONE HURDLE (Selling handicap: £780: 2m 1f) (15)

1	/100-00	RED NICK (Mrs M Brennan) O Brennan 5-12-7	C Bell 7
2	201200-	CLAYMORE (B Gordon) J Townson 6-11-7	R Stronge 4
3	32004/3	RIVA BE GOOD (M Fry) O O'Neill 6-11-4	P Stone 7
6	030200	BISHOPS RIDE (Mrs M Holmes) W Musson 4-10-13	J Barlow
8	0/00-00	LADYSWOOD (Dr B Coulton) K Bridgwater 6-10-11	W Worthington 7
9	02214-4	LEGS OF MAN (R Howard) O Brennan 4-10-11	P Farrell 7
10	400000-	JALNA (J Bosley) J Bosley 4-10-11	Mr M Bosley 7
11	00f40-0	SANDY BIGHT (D Ward) P Bevan 4-10-10	T Wall
12	00-0	SATIN GRANGE (I Fry) C James 5-10-10	J J O'Neill
15	21/pp-0	FINWOOD (C) (J Finnegan) Earl Jones 5-10-7	G McCourt
16	0/00	DIZZY HEIGHTS (Mrs A Mason) H Fleming 5-10-1	M Pepper 4
19	00000	CHARITY RUN (Mrs E Hall) Mrs K Coulman 6-10-0	C McIlletrick 7
21	ppp-	BURNDITCH BOY (R Hughes) M Eckley 4-10-0	G Evans 7
22	000-004	MOSQUITO RIVER (M Hughes) B Richmond 6-10-0	P Corrigan 7
23	00000-0	BUY NOW (J Fox) J Fox 5-10-0	M Coyle

3 Bishops Ride, 7-2 Riva Be Good, 4 Legs Of Man, 5 Red Nick, 6 Claymore, 8 Satin Grange, 12 others.

2.15 ELLASTONE CHASE (Novices: 5-y-o: £1,283: 2m 4f) (13)

1	300p-00	DIOKLIS (M Barraclough) M Barraclough 10-12	–
2	400-2f2	GAMBLE HALL (Ld Coventry) M Tate 10-12	J J O'Neill
3	42-1230	HASSI R'MEL (R Griffiths) F Yardley 10-12	N Tinkler
4	020-33f	HOPE END (Mrs Y Allsop) J Old 10-12	–
5	400-00r	MEMBER'S RELISH (B) (Brig C Harvey) D Nicholson 10-12	N Madden
7	10021-0	PROSETT (A Gadd) J Fox 10-12	S Moore 7
8	0-	REAY ROYAL (Anne Duchess of Westminster) W Francis 10-12	R Crank
11	004-044	SMITH'S MAN (Smith Mansfield Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 10-12	M Bastard
13	221212-	THE WELDER (Bendall's of Carlisle) M W Dickinson 10-12	R Earnshaw
14	00f0-00	TOUCOR (A Steven) D Ancil 10-12	G McCourt
16	00-4334	ALABAMA (B) (F Jackson) W Clay 10-7	C Mann 4
19	000/0-0	POLLY QUINN (Mrs D Wardman) C Wardman 10-7	–
20	022-0f	SAFFRON'S DAUGHTER (G Clarke) D Gandolfo 10-7	J Burke

8-15 The Welder, 9-2 Gamble Hall, 8 Saffron's Daughter, 10 Hassi R'Mel, 12 Smith's Man, 16 others.

2.45 FARLEY CHASE (Handicap: £1,460: 2m 1f) (11)

1	1102f-p	SCOTTISH BAR (C) (I Wilson) P O'Connor 9-11-10	Mr A J Wilson
2	241ppp-	SLIEVE BRACKEN (E Westman) W Clay 7-11-9	C Mann 4
4	231102-	GEMELEX (P Bingley) J Old 7-10-11	–
5	1103-p2	ROYAL MERE (Sir J Hanmer) Mrs M Rimell 6-10-10	S Morshead
6	0000/21	WOOD AVEN (Edinburgh Mill) G Richards 9-10-7	N Doughty
7	1100-4b	CAPTAIN SHADOW (CD) (D Ancil) D Ancil 6-10-6	Mrs P Nicholls 7
9	3fp01-	TRUSTY CATCHER (M Tate) M Tate 5-10-1	–
10	32330b-	STRAIGHT CASH (Lady More) Mrs W Sykes 10-10-0	J Bryan
11	/p0-3p3	GREY FUSILIER (M Low) M Low 8-10-0	Mr M Low 4
13	01f0-02	PEA-COCK-ADE (T Shiter) C Miller 7-10-0	J J O'Neill
14	300f01	VERY FRIENDLY (C) (Deviles Ltd) P Bevan 7-10-0 (7 ex)	T Wall

9-4 Wood Aven, 11-4 Royal Mere, 4 Very Friendly, 6 Gamelek, 8 Trusty Catcher 12 Grey Fusilier, 16 others

3.15 NORBURY HURDLE (Div II: novices: £690: 2m 1f) (20)

1	0-0	CHARLIE'S GAMBLE (J Townson) J Townson 6-10-12	Miss S James 7
3	p04/	GOLDEN BRIGADIER (Mrs S Bingley) J Old 5-10-12	–
4		HODAKA (B Cambidge) B Cambidge 6-10-12	Mr J Cambidge 4
5	0	LEGAL EMPEROR (Mrs R McLaughlin) J FitzGerald 5-10-12	M Dwyer
6		MARCH SPARK (R West) C James 7-10-12	G McCourt
8	0-220	PRIDE O'FIFE (I Hughes) J Edwards 5-10-12	P Warner
9	40p0-	RED REPPIN (H Shouler) D Nicholson 5-10-12	N Madden
10	000/0-0	ROYAL REX (C Tierney) J Tierney 7-10-12	R Crank
12	021422	LADYCROSS (CD) (A Smith) Mrs J Pitman 4-10-11	Mr M Pitman 7
13	00-	BALOYD (Mrs M Banks) W Musson 4-10-9	J Barlow
15	0	DESERT AIR (G Pearson) K Bridgwater 4-10-9	W Worthington 7
16	0000p-p	FARE LOVE (E Evans) E Evans 4-10-9	–
18	30	NIGHT CLOWN (B Bates) L Lightbrown 4-10-9	K Sims 7
20	30-0	OUTLAW (H White) W Clay 4-10-9	C Mann 4
21	0-	PITSYCATO (D Atherton) D McCain 4-10-9	J J O'Neill
22	00-0pp	SILK SCREEN (M Ritzenberg) G Thorner 4-10-9	R Kington
24	f	ABBEY ROSE (J Abbey) A Jones 6-10-7	T Wall
27	pp-	SOENKA PRINCESS (Mrs D Blackburn) Mrs R Lomax 5-10-7	T Williams 7
29	d	LEAH'S PEARL'S (J Taylor) T Taylor 4-10-4	W Morris 4
30	p-	LUCKY FIRIEND (C Longbottom) C Wardman 4-10-4	–

5-2 Ladycross, 7-2 Outlaw, 4 Pride O'Fife, 5 Night Clown, 7 Baloyd, 10 Red Reppin, 14 others.

Uttoxeter selections

By John Karter

12.45 Hayakaze, 1.15 Sharpshed, 1.45 Satin Grange, 2.15 The Welder, 2.45 Wood Aven, 3.15 Ladycross.

هكذا من الأصل

THE ARTS

Michael Darlow has fought his way out of television type-casting to direct his first feature film, *Accounts*, to be shown on Channel 4 tonight. Interview by **David Robinson**

Emotional self-discovery

Accounts, which is to be shown on Channel 4 tonight, is Michael Darlow's first feature film, though in fact he very nearly emerged as a feature director three years ago. At the end of 1980 he began work on *The Desert King*, the story of Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia. By the time that Islamic politics contributed to various factors which halted the production, something in the region of a million pounds – certainly upwards of twice the budget of *Accounts* – had already been spent. "It's a pity it didn't come to anything. It really could have been exciting. It was a wonderful script, by Franco Solinas, who wrote *The Battle of Algiers*."

Darlow began his career in the theatre as an actor and producer. His first film was more or less accidental. His mother was active with World Refugee Year, and, when a film promised by the Rank Organisation foundered, she told her son: "You're a producer; why don't you make a film?". The result was called *All These People* and was successful enough to encourage him to collaborate with the late Robert Vas on a documentary about the demolition of the old Marlborough Music Hall. On the strength of this, John Boorman, who was then producing for television in Bristol, invited him to work there.

The major influence, though, was working with Denis Mitchell at Granada. "I idolized him. It was people like Humphrey Jennings and Denis, who could find the intrinsic qualities in people and things, who really interested me What was happening in documentary was then so different from British feature films – this was in the mid-Sixties." Darlow's career was further boosted when his series *Cities at War* won a BAFTA award.

"The problem in television is that you get typed. I was now typed as a documentary director. The BBC asked me to direct Terence Rattigan's obituary – he was still alive then; after he was dead I wrote a book about him, in collaboration with Gillian Hodson. They expected me to work on film and were surprised when I chose to work on tape. I made that decision because it seemed to me to suit the play extracts we used better, made them seem more theatrical. So after that I was again typed as a tape director rather than a film director. Still I was able to do some interesting things on tape – *Crime and Punishment*, and *Suez 1956* which at least had the merit of being the longest play the BBC had made till that time. But several ideas I had for feature films came to nothing. And I didn't want to make just any film, merely for the sake of making a film.

"So then there was *The Desert King*; and, finally, *Accounts*. Michael Wilcox had originally written the play for the Traverse Theatre for the 1981 Edinburgh Festival. It came to London to the Riverside, and won the George Devine Award, though it didn't get wonderful audiences. I instantly wanted to turn it into a film. It is about a lot of things I have wanted to make a film about. Moreover I had always wanted to work up there in the North, ideally on a hill farm like the one in the film. It is amazing country, around the Cheviots. They have their own extraordinary light.

"The play has the quality of exploring very tender emotions in a context which makes no concessions at all to sentimentality. I suppose in a word it is about *maturity*, or finding maturity. Michael Wilcox lives and works in rural Northumberland, at Haltwhistle. He had been very struck by the phenomenon of country boys, often very inexperienced, who have to shoulder enormous financial responsibilities – because farming can be a very dangerous business, with implications and consequences much huger than many of us ever have to encounter. And beyond this Michael's play explores the nature of finding emotional maturity, of standing up and discovering who you are – and exploring it in a context where it is perhaps unexpected or at least unfamiliar. For a lot of us rural life is represented by *The Archers*, perhaps; but in *The Archers* emotions are very simple.

"The boys in the film and their mother – uprooted as a result of the father's death – have to take new decisions, have to discover who they are, have to learn to live together and how their relationships work, have to learn their sexual directions, have to learn to respect each other. Above all they have to learn to express themselves. It's all part of growing towards maturity. At the start of the film they are like puppies from one litter – they even sleep in the same bed. At the end they are starting to grow up.

"One of the great qualities of the play is that you cannot identify single motives. The characters are full of conflicting motives and emotions. It is a real human complexity. Michael Wilcox writes wonderfully about adolescence. He was a teacher, and his own adolescence was very important to him. He is tremendous with kids, too. He is a great sportsman. He plays for the local team and is very much a part of the local scene. You might wonder at the scene where the two boys write poetry. I can only say that Michael gets the local kids in Haltwhistle writing poetry and doing their own plays.

"The only member of the original stage cast still remaining in the film is Anthony Roper, who plays the trainer. Of course the film must stand or fall by the two boys. The original stage actors were too old to be right for the film. We went through all the professional Northumbrian actors without success. Then Michael Wilcox suggested Bob Smeaton, who was the lead singer with a successful Newcastle group, White Heat. Michael had seen him introducing a magazine show on local television. Michael McNally, who plays the younger brother, comes from a family that does a club act in the north. He is the 'serious' one: he's doing a law degree at the Tech.

"Once they were cast, we sent them off to the farm for a couple of weeks and told the farmer to make them work with the animals and everything. They adapted to it all marvellously. We explained to them that they were going to belong to us body and soul for the duration of the shooting period, which had to extend over the four seasons of the year; and that they would have to learn to do all the farm work properly. But, by God, they worked – they really worked!

"Of course we rewrote the stage play, eliminating a lot and introducing a lot more that was not in the original. The writing process went on while we were shooting, as we discovered the things we needed. There was an element of *Day for Night* – but not too much. Occasionally we asked the boys to improvise – mostly in the scenes with the animals, and in a sequence in the pub where Bob asks some local lads where he can find girls in Kelso. As we continued the boys became very confident about this. Of course we did not try it at first; at the beginning it would have been too difficult for them. But with time they learnt to relax, which is the great thing for an actor.

"The biggest problems with non-professional actors come when they have to play a sub-text, to act something which is different from the words they are saying. Working with the boys we had sometimes to adapt or eliminate or to play with the rhythms in the editing. In time, though, they had become very much more skilful at playing a sub-text. They were able to handle their last scene, in which the older brother recognizes the younger one's homosexuality, with tremendous delicacy.

"I'm pleased that the film came out of Channel 4. It was made by a company which I helped form, called Partners in Production. It's not exactly a cooperative; but we are thirty equal partners. All the heads of departments on the film were partners: producer, executive producer, myself, composer, sound recordist, designer, editor. It was the happiest film I've ever done, because we were all doing it for the right reasons. None of us had been thrust upon each other by a managerial system. It just worked well. We came in under budget, within schedule and not a cross word throughout. It's the sort of film one came into the industry for in the first place."



Robert Smeaton (left) and Michael McNally, with Elspeth Charlton as their mother

Theatre

Oliver
Aldwych

Evoking the whole of mid-Victorian London, but never seeking to deceive the spectator into believing he is looking at anything other than a stage, Sean Kenny's set for *Oliver!* was instantly recognized as the work of a great designer. With the passage of time, those weathered timbers, revolving into grimy alleyways and fog-bound river prospects, have also taken on the quality of an altar to theatrical integrity, and the only recommendation Peter Coe's revived production needs is that it lives up to the set.

This is the Dickens of destitution, underworld squalor and the nightmare face at the bedroom window; and pretty well obliterating the Dickens of saccharine virtue and kindly old gentlemen dispensing free soup.

The dramatic justification of Lionel Bart's music (and, however good the numbers are in themselves, they are vastly better in context) is that it saves the story from becoming unbearable, and gives the wretched of the earth the chance to stand up for themselves. *Down comes the grim portcullis* inscribed "God is Love" in the opening scene, but, even before the gruel is dished out, the starving waifs have cast pathos aside and are roaring their great hymn to "Food".

The central event of the show is Ron Moody's return to his original role as Fagin. Brought up on the thieves' kitchen idea of the villainous Jew, this performance was a revelation to me.

Without omitting a particle of Fagin's guile and reptilian vigilance, Mr Moody – fingers and eyes dancing – also projects his real affection for the boys, his self-respect as an artist in crime, and his capacity for self-mockery. Reprieved from the Dickensian dock, he finally takes rapid flight into the night shadows of London Bridge – a fitting end for a performance that converts him from an anti-Semitic stereotype into an emblem of Jewish survival. Once seen never forgotten.

There are no weak links in the supporting company. David Garlick's Dodger sustains his unflappable toff routine from the moment he first rolls down his one tattered sock. Jackie Marks's Nancy, vocally well in command of her ballads as well as rollicking choruses at The Three Cripples, also looks well on the way to ruin, dosed up to the eyes on gin; her attachment to Linal Haft's quietly murderous Sykes is totally credible. And Anthony Pearson's Oliver treads a perfectly judged path between *mischief and virtue*.

The orchestrations, repeatedly picking up numbers and putting them through atmospheric modulations, beautifully complement the continual transformations of the set.

Irving Wardle

Special Occasions
Ambassadors

Coinciding nicely with a lead letter in this newspaper about the marked effect on children if divorced parents manage to go on cooperating, Bernard Slade's two-hander comedy considers the effect of post-divorce meetings on the parents themselves. Repeating the format of his earlier *Same Time, Next Year* – successive duologues spread over a number of years – it takes the temperature of the couple's relationship at intervals, watching their liaisons with other partners come and go. As a rule, they meet only for births, remarriages, deaths, and other events: hence the title.

John Alderton and Jan Waters first appear in ironic vein at their fifteenth anniversary party that just gets in ahead of the divorce. (Actually, Mr Alderton had come out before the curtain to explain that his bad back went again at the last preview and would we understand?) She is starting to drink, clearly headed for disasters and cures. He, doing well in television, gets his subsequent ups and downs in the shape of being fired, starting as a freelance playwright (shades of Mr Slade's *Romantic Comedy*), failing and eventually succeeding. The children's fortunes flicker just as predictably: the handsome son gets caught in a burning sports car, the Chopin-pianist daughter ends in the pop world and the youngest provides an illegitimate grandchild at the age of 17.

Except in the final reconciliation, Mr Slade's saccharine tendency is less intrusive then usual, but a glossy layer still overlays the many emotional insights of character: this is commercial comedy which (unlike Ayckbourn) takes no real risks. The laugh-lines are neither painful nor witty enough. And the repeated device of implying a *mise-en-scène for a sequence only to* overturn it by showing someone is play-acting makes it more contrived still.

Mr Alderton is less happily cast as the "complacently vulnerable" Michael than Miss Waters's Amy, who hides insecurity beneath icy poise and practicality. The author himself directs.

Anthony Masters

Dance

Dash
Dominion

I wish I could be more enthusiastic about the latest version of Wayne Sleep's *Dash*, which opened this week for a short season at the Dominion.

The original show was launched three years ago, and, although it was by no means perfect, it had a genuine freshness and energy, and some very good ideas. It still has some good ideas, but the best of them are the originals: the tap dancing cygnets, the classical *pas de deux* which lets you hear the dancer's real thoughts, and even these could now benefit from some severe editing. Sleep's impersonations, too, are becoming rather over-familiar, although, cut to a minimum and presented as part of a *Winter Olympics* sequence, which, mysteriously includes lawn tennis and American football, they do well enough.

New additions are a "Come Dancing" number, which has distinct possibilities but lacks the inhuman precision of the genuine article, and a best-forgotton song, "My name is Bill", in which Sleep apparently represents a very famous baby. He is also responsible for most of the choreography, more varied in style than before, but not especially distinguished. The exceptions are a short piece *by Derek Deane and a spectacu*lar adagio number danced by a guest couple, D'Valda and Sirico.

There are the makings of a good show here, but hidden under a multitude of indifferent costumes, a spectacular though not very subtle lighting plot, and run-of-the-mill music, not helped by either the sound system or possibly the acoustic.

Sleep himself is a remarkable entertainer, and he has excellent support, notably from Jane Darling. But *Dash* currently needs the eye of a tough Broadway producer if it is to be more of an evening on the town and less like a night at home in front of the television.

Judith Cruickshank

Concert

BBCSO/Atherton
Festival Hall/Radio 3

The second instalment in the Ravel/Varèse Festival was rather like the first. We had exchanged the Queen Elizabeth for the Festival Hall, and the London Sinfonietta for the BBC Symphony Orchestra, in order to hear the biggest blockbusters of both composers – but again Paul Crossley was on hand to give a nimble and searching account of a Ravel concerto (this time the one for left hand), and again David Atherton was proving how far clarity of sound and determination of rhythm can go in the interpretation of two composers so aptly contrasted. Again too, Ravel was shown to be quite as odd and dangerous a character as his revolutionary fellow.

To discover a malevolent savagery in the minimalist *Bolero* is perhaps nothing new but Mr Atherton also found deeper undercurrents in the *Rapsodie Espagnole* which normally passes for a set of luridly coloured postcards. We tend to forget that Ravel's Spain was not Benidorm and denatured flamenco. It was a Spain of the imagination, and most particularly of the literary imagination: hence the rightness of a performance that began like a sequence of serenades outside a house where *Don Juan is at large. The work* was still terribly discreet but it certainly knew what it was being discreet about.

In part it must be said this was due to a very physical quality in the playing, a sense of the sometimes frail flesh behind the sounds. And, not surprisingly, that was most prominent when the sounds were most odd: the strangulated double-bass harmonics of the *Rapsodie*, for instance, were disconcerting, and the opening of the concerto, with double bassoon sounding its lugubrious theme over unfathomably low strings, was almost comic. That was surely not right. Even Ravel's strangest sonorities ought to appear *sublimely beautiful* and well mannered, like the dandy demeanour that covered the still impenetrable secrets of the his private life.

Varèse's music is a lot more tolerant of struggles and failings, for a certain rude energy is very much part of a work like his *Ameriques*. Requiring a colossal orchestra, which it leads towards a march of *terrifying single-mindedness* and nearly insupportable volume, this work of 1921 was Varèse's celebration too of the new worlds he had opened for music.

A performance of powerful detail made both points forcibly. There were the city sounds, of siren, jazz trumpet and mindless, massive machine rhythm, but there was also the magnificence of a creative imagination making sense of what is intemperate, even chaotic. For noisiness in Varèse – such as, say, discontinuity in Webern – needs only sympathetic performance and an unprejudiced ear to make it a further extension of human intelligence and beauty.

Paul Griffiths

Television

Fictional facts

Q.E.D. (BBC 1) posed the question *Eyewitness Evidence ...Fact or Fiction?* which rather missed the point: the bald distinction between fact and fiction is not helpful, since *we tend to rely upon* interpretations of visual material which are sometimes afforded the status of facts. In that respect, this analysis of "eyewitness" evidence was otiose from the start: ever since the days of religious apparitions, eyes have been known to see differently.

There was in last night's documentary a great deal of what is called "investigation" into the subject – although the film-makers had clearly not taken, to heart their own commentary which insisted that "the suggestion of just one word can make us remember something that never happened". In this case, "investigation" might lead a bewildered viewer to believe that the commentator, Anthony Clare, had informed him of something which he did not already know: "He had an Irish accent, officer, but he moved so quickly I never saw his face".

Q.E.D. is very much in the tradition of popular knowledge as exemplified in the "Just Fancy That!" comic strips of the newspapers. In last night's episode there were tests involving the public and dramatized "scenes" involving actors; but it was, essentially, an undramatic glimpse of the obvious. Psychologists, always in large supply on such occasions, were quite happy to give their own opinions on the subject, although they were not a great deal of help. In fact the contradictions between their analyses suggested that their evidence in trials as "expert witnesses" was no more reliable than that of "eyewitnesses" themselves. We were, in other words, left in the dark.

Peter Ackroyd

Law Report December 22 1983

Divisional Court

Prisoner is entitled to go direct to solicitor

Regina v Governor of Wormwood Scrubs Prison, Ex parte Anderson

Before Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice Mann

[Judgment delivered December 21]

The prohibition on a visit by a legal adviser, made under Standing Order 5A 34 issued through Rule 33 of the Prison Rules (SI 1964 No 388) to advise on a prisoner's complaints about prison treatment in regard to contemplated litigation prior to the lodging of an internal complaint with the prison authorities (the simultaneous ventilation rule) was *ultra vires*, and a prisoner was entitled to correspond with his legal adviser in regard to the contemplated litigation without first lodging a complaint through the internal disciplinary procedures of the prison.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in allowing an application for judicial review by James Anderson against the decision of the assistant governor of Wormwood Scrubs Prison on July 13, 1983, to refuse to allow the applicant to consult his legal adviser, Miss Akester, an articled clerk of the firm of B. M. Birnberg & Co.

Mr Edward Fitzgerald for the applicant; Mr Simon D. Brown for the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said that on June 16, 1983, there was a disturbance at Wormwood Scrubs Prison between inmates and officers as a result of which the applicant was charged with six offences against prison discipline.

Miss Akester was asked to advise the applicant in connexion with possible civil proceedings alleging assault by one or more officers during the disturbance.

She was refused permission to see the applicant on July 14 by the assistant governor because he thought the applicant was intending to make allegations about prison officers' conduct and the standing orders issued by the Home Office required that an internal complaint be initiated first. The Home Office confirmed that decision and there had been no interview yet between the applicant and his solicitors on that matter.

His Lordship said that it was plain that the problem was the relationship between the internal investigation within a prison of a matter giving rise to an allegation by an inmate against a member of the prison staff, and the right of an inmate to pursue his complaint by a civil action against a member of staff.

Mr Fitzgerald submitted that unimpeded access to a solicitor so as to initiate civil proceedings in the courts was an inseparable part of the right of access to the courts themselves. Therefore the simultaneous ventilation rule was an impediment since it required a complainant to write to the prison governor first thereby exposing himself to the possibility of being charged with making a false and malicious allegation against a member of the prison staff.

Mr Brown submitted there was no absolute principle that such an impediment was *ultra vires*. The question was one of balance. The rule merely regulated the circumstances in which inmates had access to solicitors, and was in the interests of good administration of prisons and discipline and control of their inmates.

His Lordship said that it was proper for there to be regulations to control the access of prisoners to solicitors. But it was clear from the case of *Raymond v Honey* ([1983] AC 1) that a prisoner's right of access to a solicitor to institute proceedings should be unimpeded in the same way as his right to begin proceedings by sending essential documents for that purpose was unimpeded.

In this case the applicant's request to see a solicitor was an inseparable part of his right of access to the courts themselves. The rule was an impediment since it required him to do something which otherwise he could not be required to do. No inmate could be compelled to make an internal complaint against a member of the prison staff.

The requirement that an inmate should make such a complaint as a prerequisite of his having access to his solicitor went beyond the regulation of the circumstances in which such access could take place and constituted an impediment to his right of access to the civil court. Therefore the relevant provisions of the standing orders were *ultra vires*.

Mr Justice Mann agreed.

Solicitors: B. M. Birnberg & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

Order not upset by remarriage

Jenkins v Livesey (formerly Jenkins)

Before Sir John Arnold, President and Mrs Justice Heilbron

[Judgment delivered December 21]

The Court of Appeal in refusing to set aside a consent order by which the former husband transferred his half-share in the former matrimonial home to the wife on her agreement to give up her right to periodical payment gave him leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

The consent order had been made by Mr Registrar Carder on September 2, 1982 which embodied an agreement made between the parties on or about June 22, 1982. The wife had remarried on September 24, 1982 and the husband had not learned of her remarriage until October 21, 1982. Judge Cox had dismissed an appeal from the registrar's order on May 5, 1983.

Mr A. C. Myer for the husband; Miss Jean H. Ritchie for the wife.

THE PRESIDENT, giving the judgment of the court, said that following the dissolution of the marriage a consent order had been made by the registrar which embodied the terms of an agreement made between the parties on or around June 22, 1982. The order provided that the husband would transfer to the wife his interest in the former matrimonial home which belonged to the spouses in equal shares and all claims of the husband and wife against each other for periodical payments would be dismissed.

On September 24, 1982 the wife remarried. The husband sought to have the consent order set aside on two alternative grounds: first that the wife should have informed him of her intention to remarry before the making of the consent order; second, the fact of remarriage after the making of the consent order.

The legal rights of the parties derived from the order and a consent order could be set aside on appeal in the same way as any other order.

Available grounds in addition to fraud and mistake included a material failure to comply with an obligation of disclosure: see *Thwaite v Thwaite* ([1982] Fam 1, 8). Looking at the letters which passed between the respective solicitors no agreement could be implied that the negotiations between the solicitors would proceed on the basis of full disclosure. There was no failure on the part of the wife to comply with any obligation to disclose her intention to remarry. There was no essential difference between the present case and the case of *Wales v Wadham* ([1977] 1 WLR 199).

It had been argued that where the effect of an order made in the matrimonial jurisdiction was substantially altered by an event supervening after it had been made the order could be set aside and a new order substituted which would be fair.

In *Minton v Minton* ([1979] AC 593.601) Lord Fraser of Tullybelton said: "But it is easy to envisage an exceptional case in which a totally unforeseeable change in the circumstances of one of the former spouses occurs soon after a final court order has been made disposing of the financial issues between them. Such a change might render the order so inappropriate as to appear harsh and unjust... To cover such exceptional cases it would, in my view, be desirable that the jurisdiction of the court to vary any order shold invariably be preserved as a matter of general law... But I do not think that the legislation as it stands is capable of being construed so as to lead to the result that I regard as preferable". The legislation had not been altered.

The statement of Lord Fraser did not impinge upon the principle illustrated by *Curwen v James* ([1965] 1 WLR 748) that when court of first instance had to speculate about an unascertained matter which was resolved by the happening of a later event which occurred before the time limited for an appeal had elapsed, the appellate court would take account of the later ascertainment.

The event of remarriage occurred long after the time so limited for an appeal from the consent order. Accordingly the inability of the court to interfere as referred to by Lord Fraser operated to the fullest extent. The second ground of appeal failed.

It was unrealistic to regard the question whether the wife would remarry as being before the registrar by reason of his duty to consider whether to give or withhold his sanction and approval of the agreement. The registrar had given the particular agreement his approval and had embodied it in the consent order with no representation before him and no knowledge of the facts. The registrar only had a minimal amount of information which could be inferred from the contents of the application.

The court had been informed that it was a common practice in exercising their function, to give or withhold approval, registrars would rely on the circumstance that the joint application was made by solicitors with whom they were well acquainted and also that such firms would not put forward agreements to be approved unless they were fit to be approved.

The court did not know how far that practice extended but the court regarded the practice as a slender basis for the discharge of the jurisdiction established by *L v L* ([1962] P 101).

An attendance before the registrar was necessary to enable answers to be given to any queries that he might have in the course of the exercise of the jurisdiction.

Solicitors: G & I Chisholm, Bodmin; Bond Pearce & Co, Liskeard.

Agreement to pay all costs unlawful

Windvale Ltd v Darlington Insulation Co Ltd

A provision in an abitration agreement whereby one party agreed in advance to pay the costs of both parties was prohibited by section 18(3) of the Arbitration Act 1950, Mr Justice Walton held in the Chancery Division on December 20.

HIS LORDSHIP said that section 18(3) provided that "any provision in an arbitration agreement to the effect that the parties or any party thereto shall in any event pay their or his own costs of the reference or award or any part thereof shall be void" Although the provision in question was outside the strict wording of the subsection, where one party paid the costs of both he necessarily paid his own, and so an agreement to do so, unless entered into after the dispute had arisen, was prohibited by the subsection.

In exercising the court's discretion to set aside the arbitration award rather than remit it back to the original arbitrator, a matter on which there was very little authority, in a case in which on every point on which it was possible to go wrong the arbitrator had done so, his Lordship thought it proper to start again with a clean sheet and ordered that the award be set aside.

Court of Appeal

No privilege against self incrimination

Universal City Studios Inc and Others v Hubbard and Others

Before Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce and Lord Justice Fox

[Judgment delivered December 21]

A defendant who sought to have an Anton Piller (search and seize) order set aside and seized documents returned to him on the ground that there was a serious risk of his being required to incriminate himself in answering questions about the documents including seized video tapes in that such answers might have indicated an involvement in the manufacture and distribution of pornographic films, was barred from claiming such privilege by section 72 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 even though the offence was not one "committed by or in the course of" the tort relied on by the plaintiffs where the proceedings were brought to prevent any apprehended infringement of intellectual property rights.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the first defendant, Mr Peter Hubbard, from the refusal of Mr Justice Falconer on January 21 (*The Times*, February 1: [1983] Ch 241) to discharge the Anton Piller order.

The plaintiffs, Universal City Studios Inc, had alleged that the defendants had been engaged in the production of counterfeit films at their premises and as a result of their inquiries had obtained undertakings satisfactory to the plaintiffs.

Mr Alastair J. D. Wilson for the first defendant Mr John Baldwin for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE CUMMING-BRUCE, giving the judgment of the court, said that section 72 of the 1981 Act provided for the withdrawal of privilege against incrimination of a party or spouse.

It provided that "(1) In any proceedings to which this subsection applies a person shall not be excused, by reason that to do so would tend to expose that person... to proceedings for a related offence... (a) from answering any question... in the first-mentioned proceedings; or (b) from complying with any order made in those proceedings.

"(5) ... 'related offence', in relation to any proceedings to which subsection (1) applies means... (b) in the case of proceedings within subsection 2 (c) any offence revealed by the facts on which the plaintiff relies in those proceedings..."

The appellant had submitted that "any offence" in section 72 (5) (b) should be restricted so that it meant "any offence of the kind specified in section 72 (5) (a) (i) and (ii).

However, it would have been the easiest thing in the world to add the necessary words of restriction to the definition in section 72 (5) (b). The draftsman expressly distinguished the extent of the privilege in the case of proceedings in section 72 (2) (a) or (b) from the extent of the privilege in the case of proceedings in section 72 (2) (c).

The appellant had submitted that there should be no difference between the privilege withdrawn in proceedings as described in section 72 (2) (a) and (b) on the one hand and section 72 (2) (c) on the other.

The answer was that Parliament evidently decided that there should be such a distinction and defined "related offence" in quite different and much wider terms in the case of proceedings to prevent future torts than in the case of prodeedings in respect of past or present infringements.

The policy of Parliament to be collected from the words of the Act was that only where there was a risk of further damage to a plaintiff that a defendant was denied the right to claim privilege in respect of self incrimination for offences not committed by or in the course of or in connexion with the alleged infringement.

Having decided to dismiss the appeal, it was unnecessary for the court to decide whether Mr Justice Falconer was right in his view that "if I should conclude that the defendant is not barred by... section 72, I should order the return of the documents concerned and make the order that he seeks, this being a case where the defendant has properly brought proceedings for the return of the documents in the form of their present application, and that before they have been adduced in any form or shape or any evidence based on them has been put before the court".

The court entertained serious doubt about the correctness of that conclusion, and as the judgment below had been reported it was right to express those doubts, although it had not been necessary for their Lordships to decide the question.

Solicitors: Michael Davis & Co, Ilford; A. E. Hamlin & Co.

Jury direction on intent in murder trials

Regina v Moloney (Allistair Baden)

Although in most murder cases it was sufficient, with regard to *mens rea*, merely to direct the jury that the prosecution must prove intent to kill or to do really serious bodily harm, there were cases, not limited to those where the deceased was someone other than the intended victim, where the circumstances made it not only appropriate but essential to give the direction in *DDP v Hyam* ([1975] AC 55,79), to the effect that it was sufficient for the prosecution to prove that the defendant foresaw a serious risk of death or really serious bodily harm resulting from his deliberate act.

Further, it was clear from *R v Lattimore* ((1975) 62 Cr App R 53) and from *R v Lee (Bruce) (unreported, December 9, 1983)* that the Court of Appeal could not receive evidence under section 23 of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 unless it was evidence which would itself be admissible at a trial.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice May, Mr Justice Boreham and Mr Justice Nolan) so held on December 16, refusing an application by Mr Allistair Baden Moloney for leave to appeal against his conviction at Birmingham Crown Court on September 17, 1982, for the murder of his step-father.

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LEGAL NOTICES

No. 007395 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
MR. REGISTRAR BRADBURN
In the matter of DANISH BACON COMPANY public limited company and in the matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

NOTICE is hereby given by an order dated the 13th December 1983 made in the above matters the Court has directed separate Meetings of the holders of (1) the "A" Ordinary Shares (other than those in which the Connected Persons (as defined in the Scheme of Arrangement hereinafter mentioned) are interested and (2) the Redeemable Cumulative Preference Shares respectively of the above-named DANISH BACON COMPANY public limited company (hereinafter called "the Company") to be convened for the purpose of considering and if thought fit approving (with or without modification) a Scheme of Arrangement proposed to be made between the Company and the holders of its said respective classes of Shares and that such Meetings will be held at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, London, EC2 on Tuesday, the 17th day of January, 1984 at the respective times below mentioned, namely:-
1. The Meeting of the holders of the said "A" Ordinary Shares at 10 o'clock in the fore noon; and
2. The Meeting of the holders of the said Redeemable Cumulative Preference Shares at 10.30 o'clock in the fore noon or so soon thereafter as the proceeding Meeting shall have been concluded.
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Further details and application form may be obtained from The Principal, College of Ripon and York St John, Lord Mayor's Walk, York YO3 7EX, to whom completed application forms should be returned to arrive not later than MONDAY 23rd January 1984.

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BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM: News and information.
6.30 Breakfast Time: with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. Today's Thursday "specials" include Breakfast Time Doctor (between 8.30-9.00), Food and Cooking (between 8.30 and 9.00) with Glynn Christian. Regular items include news at 6.30, and every half-hour until 8.30, Sport (6.40 and 8.40), TV Choice (6.55), Review of the Papers (7.18 and 8.18) and Your Stars (8.35).
9.00 The New Adventures of Flesh Gordon: cartoon version of the superman's adventures; 9.20 Battle of the Planets: another American cartoon import; 9.45 Blue Peter Special Assignment: the story of Saint Therèse of Lisieux. Told by *Peter Purves (r)*; 10.30 Paly School: Barbro Lindgreen and Eva Erikson's story The Wild Baby's Boat Trip: 10.55 Cartoons.
11.10 Emil and the Detectives: part two of this Walt Disney version of the famous children's story; 12.00 Look Back with Noakes: Mr Noakes and Shep, his dog, walk the Pennine Way (r).
12.30 News After Noon: 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: 1.45 Postman Pat.
2.00 Country Lines: Nigel Farrell travels on four of the most picturesque and remote branch lines on the British Rail network.
2.30 Film: Birth of the Blues (1941*) Bing Crosby as the leader of the first all-white Dixieland Jazz Band. With Mary Martin, Brian Donlevy. Director: Victor Schertzinger.
3.55 Play School: It's Thursday; 4.20 The Adventures of Bullwinkle and Rocky; 4.25 Jackanory: Jan Francis reads from Barrie's Peter Pan; 5.05 Newsround; 5.10 Blue Peter: Carols around the Christmas Tree. And more news of the Weather Beater Appeal.
5.40 Sixty Minutes: the line-ups is news (at 5.40), regional magazines (5.53), weather (6.15) and closing headlines.
6.40 Angels: final episode of the hospital life drama serial.
7.05 Tomorrow's World: Science and technology magazine. Includes an item about a beetle that could save our Christmas trees.*
7.30 Top of the Pops: with John Peel and David Jensen. It goes out live.
8.05 Wildlife on One: Red River Safari. Down the Tana river, which starts life on the snowy peaks of Mount Kenya and then takes 500 miles to reach the Indian Ocean. Along its banks: rhinos and hippos, rare monkeys, scarlet sunbirds, and bongos and parrots.
8.30 Only Fools and Horses: Del (David Janson), still on the trail of the elusive fast buck, offers to paint the flat of his friend Denzil (Paul Barber), but Denzil's wife (Eva Mottley) is far from keen on the idea.
9.00 News: the reader is John Humphreys. And weather for Friday.
9.25 The Crazy Gang: a Celebration. Denis Gifford, the master of instant nostalgia, with memories of Flanagan and Allen, Nervo and Knox, Naughton and Gold, and Monsewer Eddie Gray. Clips from their films, reminiscences of show business folk, and location filming at the Victoria Palace ("home" of the Crazy Gang) and the Palladium.
10.25 Film 83: Barry Norman with clips from new releases including Natalie Wood's final film Brainstorm, Peter Yates's science-fiction fantasy Krull, and the new monster movie, Jaws 3-D.
11.00 The Rockford Files: crime story starring James Garner: 11.50 News and weather.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain: with Nick Owen and Anne Diamond. Today's Thursday "specials" include Faith Brown (panic buying with the stars) at 7.45, Guess Who? (at 8.05) and Film Review (8.35). Regular items include news at 6.28, 6.58, 7.28, 7.58, 8.28 and 8.58; Competition Time (8.25). Today's papers (6.25).
9.00 Roland's Winter Winterland.

ITV/LONDON

9.00 Thames news headlines. Followed by: Sesame Street.
10.25 Film: Flash Gordon (1981). Full-length made-for-television cartoon version of the American comic strip. For the adversary of old, the Emperor Ming, now read Barin, Emperor of Mongo.
12.00 Teetime and Claudia: for the very young: 12.10 Get up and Go! with Beryl Reid and Mooncat (r); 12.30 The Sullivans.
1.00 News from ITN; 1.20 Thames News; 1.30 To the Ends of the Earth: The full story of the three years it took for Sir Ranulf Fiennes and his companion Charles Burton to make the first Pole-to-Pole circumnavigation of the globe. They covered 52,000 miles and traversed the five continents.
3.30 Sons and Daughters: Australian drama serial.
4.00 Film: First Men in the Moon (1964). Expensively-mounted fantasy based on the H. G. Wells story, about an 1899 expedition to the Moon involving Edward Judd, Lionel Jeffries (a hugely enjoyable comedy performance), Martha Hyer and Erik Chitty. The special effects are remarkable.
5.45 News; 6.00 Thames News; 6.20 Crossroads.
6.45 Knight Rider: The hunt is on for an ingenious cat burglar.
7.30 Carry on Laughing's Christmas Classics: Kenneth Williams and Barbara Windsor link these excerpts from many of the Carry On comedies, hardly any of which have anything to do with Christmas.
8.00 Hotel: The continuing story of the staff and glamorous guests at San Francisco's luxurious St Gregory Hotel. Tonight: Peter's ex-wife unexpectedly returns on his birthday. And an elderly couple arrive at the hotel, intending to have a free weekend.
9.00 News. And Thames news headlines.
9.15 Film: Capricorn One (1978). Exceptionally clever space-fiction drama which provides a stark contrast with First Men in the Moon (at 4.00). This one is about the First Men on Mars – except that they don't actually land on the planet, though the secret of what actually happens to them is closely kept at the expense of people's lives being put in jeopardy. Starring Elliott Gould as the reporter who smells a rat. With James Brolin, Brenda Vacaro, Sam Waterston, Hal Holbrook and Telly Savalas.
11.30 Gloria: St James's Church in London's Piccadilly (a Wren masterpiece) is the setting for a concert of seasonable music by Mozart, Handel and Vivaldi. With the English Chamber Orchestra and Choir, and soloists Jill Gomez (soprano), and Margaret Cable (mezzo). Works include Mozart's Exultate, Jubilate; Vivaldi's Gloria in D; and the pastoral symphony from Handel's Messiah.
12.30 A Different Christmas: After eight years spent in north-east India, Sister Laetitia, a Roman Catholic missionary, is spending Christmas at home in Britain. Gillian Reynolds talks to her.



Robert Smeaton in Accounts (Channel 4, 9.30pm)

CHOICE

● "These are our Dales", says the budding shepherd, indicating the sweep of the Border country that he, and his brother, and their freshly widowed mother have just moved up to from neighbouring Northumberland, in Michael Wilcox's film ACCOUNTS (Channel 4, 9.30pm). "Well, ours and the bank's", is the amending afterthought. Elsewhere in the film, someone else with his nose close to the earth (and there is nobody in Accounts who has not got farm mud on his boots), says that resources, like the land, are not for making money, but for making life better. Before you start running away with the idea that Accounts is an agronomical treatise, let me rapidly assure you that it is not fundamentally that kind of work at all, though the struggles of the Mawson family to balance their books is undoubtedly the thread that runs through it. The most complicated accounts that the brothers have to settle (the mother is a secondary figure, symbolizing discipline) are to do with their personal relationships as they advance from brawling and taunting adolescence to what could well be responsible manhood. There are some highly complex emotions bubbling away just beneath the surface of Accounts. It is just as dramatic when they do not break the skin as when they do.

● Accepting the fact that the best voice for the reading of THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS must always be the one inside our own head, Bernard Cribbins's rendering is an exemplary second-best in the 12-part serialization (by Angela Thomas) of Kenneth Grahame's book that begins on Radio 4 at 4.40. He has caught Mole, Rat and Toad perfectly, though I fear you will have to wait for tomorrow's instalment to realize how expertly Mr Cribbins has got the measure of the faddish squire of Toad Hall. A reminder: a British-made musical version of The Wind in the Willows, with instantly recognizable voices such as Ian Carmichael's, Michael Hordern's, Beryl Reid's and Una Stubbs's issuing from the mouths of some ingeniously animated model figures, is one of ITV's Holiday Tuesday attractions. The adaptation is the work of Rosemary Anne Sisson, which means that we need not feel apprehensive about alien influences being at work such as those that were brought to bear on Kenneth Grahame's exquisite book when it fell into the gleeful hands of the Disney studios, *years ago.*

BBC 2

3.30 Film: Mr Blandings Builds his Dream House (1948). Comedy, very charmingly performed, about a New York family who move to the countryside, only to find that the ideal of the idyllic life has somehow escaped them. With Cary Grant in tip-top form, well supported by Myrna Loy, Melvyn Douglas and Sharyn Moffett. Directed by H. C. Potter.
5.00 The World Chess Championships. Jeremy James presents the semi-final.
5.35 News summary. And weather.
5.40 Sports Review of 1983: From the BBC Television centre, in London, where more than 400 leading sports personalities gathered to see the presentations to the Sports Personality of the Year, and other awards including the Team of the Year, and the Outstanding Overseas Personality.
7.25 Callas! An International Celebration. What happened earlier this month when four of the world's great opera houses – La Scala in Milan, the Chicago Lyric Opera House, the Paris Opera House, and the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden – combined via television satellite to present a star-studded gala in aid of the Maria Callas Foundation for young singers, conductors, composers and musicians.
9.25 The Great Palace: The Story of Parliament. Final programme in Christopher Jones's unmissable series about the other of Parliaments. Tonight's film is about some of the 2,000 people (all of them non-MPs) who work at the Palace of Westminster (known, collectively, as "strangers"). We learn about the 100-year-old steam engine, always kept ready, in one of the miles of basment under the royal palace.
10.15 Christmas at Cromore: Colour, music, and seasonal cheer from Cromore House, the beautiful mansion just outside Portstewart in Co Londonderry. The entertainers include the Camhill Folk Group, the North Eastern Schools Symphony Orchestra, St Anne's Cathedral Choir.
11.05 News on Two. And weather.
11.10 The Roads of Exile. Part two of this Franco-Swiss film about Jean-Jacques Rousseau, the philosopher, starring Francois Simon and Dominique Labourier, and directed by Claude Goretta. It has English sub-titles. The story so far: Rousseau has been hounded through Europe, rejected by his fellow thinkers – and only his mistress, Thérèse, has remained loyal to him. Ends at 1.00am.

CHANNEL 4

4.25 Film: The Three Ages (1923*) Buster Keaton's first full-length movie employed the same technique as did D W Griffiths's Intolerance in tracing human love in parallel sequences. In today's film, it is love in the Stone Age, Imperial Rome and the early 1920s. See Keaton riding a dinosaur, and burlesquing the chariot race from Ben Hur. The cast also includes Margaret Leahy, Joe Roberts, and Oliver Hardy (in an early role).
5.30 Everybody Here: Children's show, with the popular young playwright and film-maker Tunde Ikoli, assisted by actors Brian Bovell and Louis Mahoney. Plus the Dude group of roller-skaters, and Indian girls in Coventry dancing to Indian music (r).
6.00 The Addams Family: Uncle Fester agrees to play Santa Claus but he gets stuck up the chimney. The rest of the family decide to stand in for him.
6.30 Anything We Can Do: Christmas chores for the Milton Keynes family, everything from decorating the hall and installing new furniture to buying a tree and organizing a party. And, as if all that was not enough, the fence is blown down during a storm.
7.00 Channel Four News. Followed by: 7.50 Comment: A Christmas poem, read by E P Thompson.
8.00 Bands of Gold: Final film in this series devoted to the World Drum Corps Championships 1983. We have now reached the Miami finals which take place at the Orange Bowl football stadium. Competing are 12 top United States corps. And there is a special extended feature on Dagenham Crusaders, the first British drum corps ever to play at the world championships.
9.30 Film: Accounts. By Michael Wilcox. The story of a widow (Elspeth Charlton) and her two teenaged sons who, after being tenant farmers in Northumberland, become owner farmers in the Scottish border country, near Kelso. The brothers are played by Robert Smeaton and Michael McNally. The film is directed by Michael Darlow and photographed by Charles Stewart (see Choice).
11.25 What the Papers Say: Brian Inglis looks at the week's main stories.
11.40 Our Lives: Penultimate film in this series based on the actual experiences of youngsters from London's East End. Tonight's film focuses on Paul, aged 15, from Wapping who is one of the top slalom competitors in British canoeing. Closedown at 12.25.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Ray Gosling – In the house of... (new series) 1: Bill Morris. A first-hand glimpse of a day in the life of a top union man. Mr. Morris is a full-time union official in charge of negotiating wages and conditions for the bus crews of Britain. He is interviewed by Mr. Gosling at Transport House in London.
9.30 The Living World.
10.00 News; Conversation Piece. Sue MacGregor talks to Walter Kershaw, the Lancashire murial painter.
10.30 Morning Story: 'The man Who Loved Trains' by Peter Finch. Read by Ray. Handy
10.45 Daily Service*
11.00 News; Travel; Analysis. The Half of French Socialism (r).
11.48 Enquire Within.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer affairs.
12.27 Radio Active's Christmas Turkey (r).* 12.55 Weather; Programme News.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour. Today's feature include an item in which African refugees talk about the sadness of exile. And Margaret Courtenay reads the first part of Anne Suter's A Tale of Two Princesses.
3.00 Afternoon Theatre: The Annunciation, by Geoffrey Parkinson. With Michael Gambon and Eve Stuart. A black comedy about a middle-aged childless couple, leading an uneventful life in suburbia until the wife notices a series of religious texts in her literary books and she decides that they are a sign from God. She believes she is going to give birth to Jesus.†
4.00 News; Just After Four. Roger Worsley and music hall recording pioneers.
4.10 Bookshelf. Radio 4's book programme.
4.40 Story Time: "The Wind in the Willows" by Kenneth Grahame, abridged in 12 parts (1). The reader is Bernard Cribbins (see Choice).
5.00 News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 My Word! Michael O'Donnell is *in the chair, and the opposed partners are Dilys Powell and Frank Muir, and Antonia Fraser and Denis Nordon. (r)* †
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 A Breath of Fresh Air. Ian Galloway shares the pleasure of a favourite walk on the Scottish island of Iona.
7.30 A Christmas Concert direct from the Town Hall, Birmingham. Part 1: CBSO chorus and children of Lozells Junior & Infant School and Anglesey Junior School.†
8.15 Any Answers? With David Jacobs.
8.35 Concert. Part 2.†
9.30 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes comment on Moby Dick at the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester, and the Opera North production of Verdi's opera Il trovatore. 9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "Ask Mamma" by R. S. Surtees (14).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.10 Weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast.
England: VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30 Weather; Travel. 1.55pm Listening Corner. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-11.30 Study on 4: Allez France!

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: part one: Rameau's overture to Les Fêtes d'Hebé, Bach's Trio-Sonata from The Musical Offering, Monteverdi's Zefiro Torna (Nigel Rogers and Ian Partridge, tenors), Coperario's Fantasia Suite No 8 for two violins, bass violins, bass viol and organ) and George Muffat's Sonata No 2 in G minor for strings from Armonico Tributo, 1682).†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Strauss (Duet – concertino). Gershwin, arr McBride (Second Rhapsody) and Smetana's Symphonic Poem Haakon Jarl, Op 16.†
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Stravinsky. The Concertino, 1920; Three Songs from William Shakespeare (with Ann Murray, mezzo), Tango (Noel Lee, piano) and Concertino, 1952). Plus Concerto for two pianos (Katia and Marielle Labèque).†
10.00 City of London Sinfonia: Avison's Concerto Grosso in G, Op 4, No 6, Britten's Prelude and Fugue for 18 Strings, and Mendelssohn's Symph No 12 for string orchestra.†
10.45 Lute Recital: by Robert Spencer. Works by Anthony Holborne, Thomas Robinson, Philip Rosseter and Alan Ridout (suite for lute, 1970).†
11.15 Scottish National Orchestra: Haydn's Symphony No 92. Interval reading at 11.35. Then, at 11.40, Smetana's Ma Vlast (My Country).†
1.00 News.
1.05 Clarinet and Piano: recital by Einar Johannesson and Philip Jenkins. Weber's Introduction, theme and variations; Niels Wilhelm Gade's Fantasiestucke, Op 43, and Debussy's Petite pièce.†
1.30 Cosi Fan Tutte: The 1983 Salzburg Festival production of Mozart's two-act opera, with Margaret Marshall and Ann Murray as the inconstant sisters and James Morris and Francisco Araiza as the sporting young officers. Riccardo Muti conducts the Vienna Philharmonic and State Opera Chorus, with Kathleen Battle as the sisters' maid and Sesto Bruscantini as Don Alfonso. Interval reading at 3.05, and Act 2 at 3.10.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: Another of Brian Kay's selections. It includes Finzi's In Terra Pax, and Vaughan Williams's Fantasia on Christmas Carols.†
6.30 Bandstand: with the Sun Life Band. They play Julian Grant's Variations for Brass Band (first performance) and Elgar's Severn Suite.†
7.00 The Gentlemen of the Chapel Royal: Purcell and the English Revolution; The last of Gordon Reynolds's programmes.†
7.30 Josef and Maria: Play by Peter Turrini. It is Christmas Eve and in the apartment store where the cleaner (Elizabeth Spriggs) and the nightwatchman (Maurice Denham) work, the two find a cure for loneliness with the aid of a "liberated" bottle of brandy. The translation is by David Roger.†
8.35 Schubert and Hindemith: recital by Nobuko Imai (viola) with Roger Vignoles as accompanist. Schubert's Sonata in A minor, D 821 (Arpeggione), and Hindemith's Sonata for Viola, Op 25, No 1.†
9.20 Tzadkine: Peter Vaughan reads the short story by Naomi Doudai.
9.45 Music in Our Time: Music by Justin Connolly, introduced by Anthony Payne. Poems of Wallace Stevens 1: Cinquepeces for brass quintet, Verse for eight solo voices and Anima for viola and orchestra, with Frederick Riddle (viola).†
11.00 The Complete Webern: Songs to texts by Stefan George. With Phyllis Bryn-Julson (soprano).†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.



Elizabeth Spriggs: Josef and Maria (Radio 3, 7.30pm)

Radio 2

5.00am Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 pm Music While You Work with the Bill Jackman Group.† 12.30 Gloria Hunniford.†2.02 Sports Desk. 2.30 Ed Stewart. †3.02 Sports Desk. 4.00 David Hamilton.†4.02, 5.30 Sports Desk. 6.00 John Dunn (incl 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (MF only) 7.30 Marching and Waltzing.† 8.30 Country Club with Wally Whyton.† 9.30 Star Sound Extra with Nick Jackson. 9.57 Sports Desk. 10.00 The Grumbleweeds. 10.30 Brian Matthew presents round Midnight direct from the National Theatre (stereo from midnight). 1.00am Grand Hotel.† 2.00-5.00 Peter Dickson presents You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

News on the half-hour 6.30 am-9.30 pm and then 12.00 midnight (MF/MW). 6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith incl 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Steve Wright. 4.30 Peter Powell, incl 5.30 Newsbeat. 7.00 David Jensen. 10.00-12.00 John Peel's Festive 50 nos 40-31.† VHF Radios 1 and 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Country Style. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The Painter of signs. 8.30 John Peel. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Two Hundred Years of Piano Playing. 10.15 Monitor. 10.30 Frank Muir Goes Into ... 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 New Ideas. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Top Twenty. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 The Pleasure's Yours. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Assignment. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Meridian. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 9.15 In the Meantime It's Christmas. 9.30 Business Matters. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Radio Theatre. 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 In the Meantime It's Christmas. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 At Home With... 2.30 Sir Adrian Boult: A Life of Music. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Country Style. 5.45 The World Today.

(All times in GMT)

BBC 1 WALES 12.57-1.00pm News of Wales headlines. 3.53-3.55 News of Wales Headlines. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Wales Today. 11.50 News headlines: News of Wales.

S4C Starts: 2.05 Ffalabalam. 2.20 Oresteia. 3.35 Flashback. 4.00 Body Show. 4.30 Buster Keaton. 4.55 Oli'r Ola. 5.05 Anturiaethau Syr Wynff a Plwmsan. 5.30 Abbott and Costello Show. 6.00 Brookside. 6.30 Here's Lucy. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.25 Teulu-Ffôn. 8.10 Coleg. 8.40 Tell the Truth. 9.10 Meistres Y Chwarae. 10.45 Madam Butterfly. 1.15am Closedown.

TSW As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 3.30 Siegfried and Roy. 4.30 Cartoon. 4.45 Pop Goes Cristmas. 5.15 Gus Honeybun. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.25 Televiews. 6.30 Gardens for All. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 12.30am Postscript. Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 About Britain. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25 News. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.30am Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

TYNE TEES As London except: 10.25am-12.00 Film: Father Came Too (Stanley Baxter). 1.20pm-1.30 News and Lookaround. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.30am Cost of Christmas, Closedown. ...

BORDER As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News 3.30 Young Doctors 4.00 Film: Grasshopper Island 5.15-5.45 University Challenge 6.00 Lookaround 6.35 Crossroads 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm 12.30am News, Closedown

CHANNEL As London except: Starts 12.00-12.10pm Teetime and Claudia. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.30 Siegfried and Roy. 4.30 Cartoon. 4.45 Pop Goes Xmas. 5.15-5.45 Beverley Hillbillies. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55 Mr Magoo. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 12.30am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Little Rascals Crazy Christmas. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.30am Closedown.

TVS As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News 6.00 Coast to Coast 6.35 Crossroads 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm 12.30am Company. Closedown

HTV As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 6.00 News. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.30am Carol for Christmas. 12.35 Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.35 Wales at Six. 11.30-12.30 A Partridge in a Pear Tree.

ULSTER As London except: 9.25am-9.30 Day Ahead. 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.30-4.00 Laurel and Hardy*. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.20 Gift at Christmas. 6.25 Police Six. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.30am Gift at Christmas. 12.35 News, Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Farmhouse Kitchen. 1.20-1.30 Granada Reports. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 6.00 This Is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 Granada Reports. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.30am Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 12.30am Talking of Christmas. Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 1.20pm-1.20 News. 3.30 Film: Double Bunk*. (Ian Carmichael). 5.10 Bodyline. 5.20-5-45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Give Us A Clue. 7.00 Take The High Road. 7.30-8.00 All Kinds Of Country. 12.30am Late Call, Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 9.25am First Thing 1.20pm-1.30 News 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 6.00 North Tonight 6.30 Police News 6.35 Crossroads 7.00-7.30 Happy Days 12.30am Reflections 12.35 News, Closedown

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

Shipyard strike called for January

David Felton
Labour Correspondent

The shipbuilding unions decided last night to proceed with an all-out national strike from January 6.

Attempts to avert the strike broke down yesterday after British Shipbuilders said that they were only prepared to clarify the existing pay offer and would not negotiate under duress.

In an exchange of letters, British Shipbuilders also told the 17 unions in the industry that it was not prepared to make "significant movement" in its 10-point survival package.

The strike of all 56,000 shipyard workers has been called to protest at the productivity changes which BS want. The management has offered a rise of £7 a week in return for ageement on changes in long-established working practices.

The union's determined reaffirmation of the strike threat came as controversy raged over the future of the Scott Lithgow yard on the Lower Clyde, which faces closure after the cancellation of a £86m order for an oil rig for Britoil.

Union leaders said that a meeting was to be held with British Shipbuilders in the new year to discuss the Scott Lithgow situation but that would be separate from any developments on a national strike.

In a telex to British Shipbuilders yesterday, the unions asked for a urgent response to the "clear indication" of workers' views that the productivity proposals were unacceptable.

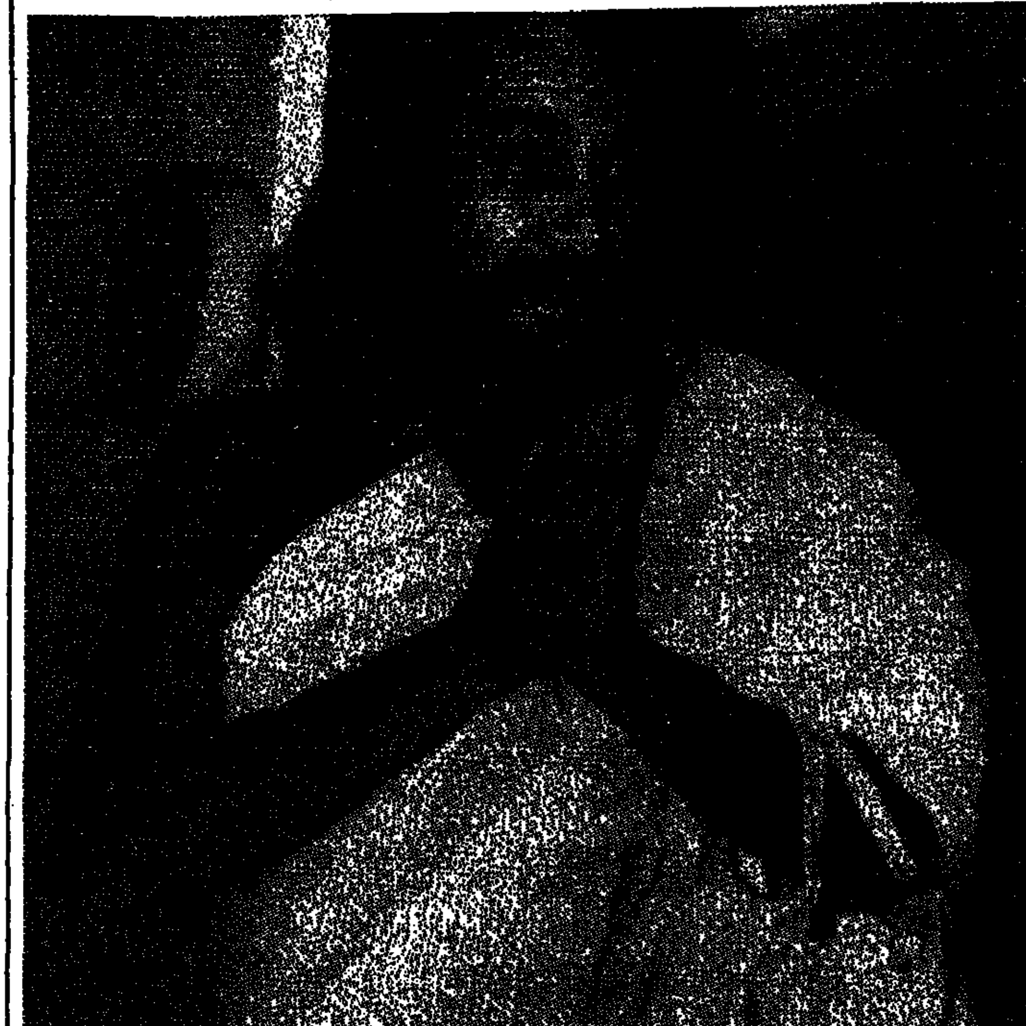
The largest union, the General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union held a ballot of its 20,000-plus members which showed that 62 per cent supported a national strike.

Doubts were being raised last night over whether the union needs a two-thirds majority in support before action can be taken. Mr Jim Murray, the union's chief negotiator, said that the union's executive could overrule that portion of the rule book.

British Shipbuilders said that the strike threat had affected customers and damaged work prospects. "A strike will be even more harmful."

Senior officials of the 17 unions said that consultation exercises with members showed a clear majority in favour of a national strike.

Gandhi's jet-set Rasputin runs into trouble



From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

A black-bearded mystic, widely referred to as Mrs Indira Gandhi's Rasputin, who has had an uncanny hold over the Indian Prime Minister and her family has now found himself in deep trouble.

Swami Dhirendra Bramachari, known to his respectful acolytes as "Swamiji", used to have unfettered entrance to 1, Safdarjung Road, where Mrs Gandhi lives. He runs three private aircraft, several Mercedes cars including a custom-built 500 SE, and has his own private air-strip.

He has long, lank hair, and wears a white *dhoti* with a strip of cloth, made of the finest homespun cotton, draped artlessly over his chest and one shoulder.

He also has an arms factory in Jammu, and that may have proved his undoing. Though it might seem a little odd for a man of God to be manufacturing rifles, the yogi seems to see no apparent conflict. He has now been accused of not merely making guns, but of gun-running.

The state of Jammu and Kashmir is the most sensitive border state of all, and a police raid on the swami's factory there turned up 500 spanish-made rifles, which had been brought in illegally. The police had been tipped off by a disgruntled trade union leader, who was upset at the small amount of piece-work available for his members since the Spanish guns were brought in.

Swamiji is now on bail, charged under the Indian Arms Act. He declared at a press conference that the guns were imported legally in order to improve the quality of his own guns. "When I do something, I like to do it well," he said.

But there was a big storm in the Lok Sabha, the Indian Parliament's Lower House, in which the Government did nothing to defend him. The swami put the fuss down to the influence of Dr Farooq Abdullah, the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. "I think he is taking it out on me because of his fight with Mrs Gandhi," he said.

His influence with Mrs Gandhi stretches back to 1959, when he was first introduced to the Nehru household. He was then but an up-and-coming teacher of yoga, brought to Delhi by Jagjivan Ram, the veteran Congress Harijan leader. His fame grew, while he lived in an outhouse of Mr Ram's bungalow.

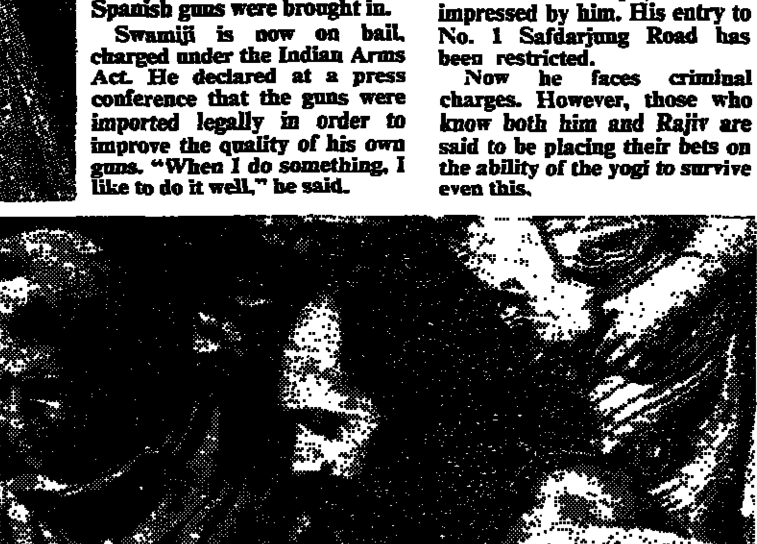
After he was introduced to Pandit Nehru, and taught him some yoga exercises, he came into contact with Mrs Gandhi and her son, Sanjay, and his influence took a sharply rising curve.

He soon came to be patronized not for the sake of the way he could stand on his head, but because of the political influence he was able to wield.

"Sanjay was a very good friend," the swami recalls. Others remember how his presence at Sanjay's funeral was like a royal progress with even Cabinet ministers rushing up to touch his feet.

Though his influence with Mrs Gandhi remains strong, her other son, Rajiv, is not so impressed by him. His entry to No. 1 Safdarjung Road has been restricted.

Now he faces criminal charges. However, those who know both him and Rajiv are said to be placing their bets on the ability of the yogi to survive even this.



Worldly man of God: Swami Dhirendra Bramachari in his Delhi office recently (above, left) and with Mrs Gandhi in happier times.

Eight killed in French base bomb attack

Continued from page 1

Israeli bombings although the anonymous caller who telephoned the Voice of Lebanon radio station afterwards claimed a hitherto unheard of organization, called the Black hand, was responsible.

● JERUSALEM: Both Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, and Mr Moshe Arens, his hawkish Defence Minister, yesterday delivered forthright warnings that Israeli attacks against what were termed terrorist targets in Lebanon and elsewhere would continue (Christopher Walker writes).

Addressing the Knesset only hours after the Israeli jet-bombardment, Mr Arens pledged to keep up attacks inside Syrian-held territory if terrorist violence against Israel did not cease.

"We shall not let the terrorists establish themselves in the Chouf region which we have evacuated. We shall continue to demand that the Druze evacuate them from the region

Responding to opposition motions critical of the Government's handling of the PLO evacuation from Tripoli, northern Lebanon, which one deputy argued had given Mr Yassir Arafat a victory, Mr Arens replied that Israel had been capable of preventing the exit of the PLO, but had decided against doing so to avoid a confrontation with the West.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Yeovil's liberator meets only yawns

Mr Paddy Ashdown, who won the Conservative-held seat of Yeovil for the Liberals at the last general election, yesterday introduced that jewel in the crown of many a Liberal Assembly discussions document: a Bill providing for the establishment of regional assemblies in England.

Even whole Liberal Assemblies have been known to enter a coma after a few minutes of this subject, with only those speaking, or about to speak, remaining upright. But there is no denying the fanaticism or the minority who are excited by the astounding tedious cause. At such times one thinks instinctively of Mr Roy Jenkins – his declining years blighted by his being allied with people capable of feeling passion about regional assemblies. So it was interesting to see yesterday how Mr Ashdown would overcome widespread consumer resistance. He was genuinely excited and idealistic about the issue. That, from the point of view of his Conservative and Labour audience, made him insufferable.

"We see ourselves as members of a liberation movement", he peeled, apropos of the Liberal Party or possibly just of Yeovil Liberal Party. From Vietnam onwards, experience has taught many of us to be on our guard against bodies calling themselves Liberation Movement was not just the patriotic group of workers, peasants and intellectuals, seeking agrarian reform that its apologists in the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* had all along claimed it to be. It was quite simply a Liberal front.

After years of atrocities and guerrilla activity in Yeovil, sometimes operating at night out of isolated villages of the surrounding countryside, it had at the last general election overthrown the candidate of the enfeebled John Peyton regime. Peyton, of course, had been depicted in the Western elite press an a vicious right winger, but in reality he was just another ordinary, decent toff, who had once been a Conservative Minister of Transport.

Once in control of Yeovil, the Liberals have imposed a ruthlessly moderate regime, which has began to menace the rest of the country in pursuit of he age-old dream of a Greater Liberal Somerset.

Where was I? Ah, yes, Mr Ashdown's Bill on regional assemblies in England. "We see ourselves as members of a liberation movement", he said, "to break the crushing power of the leviathan bureaucracy, revitalizing local government institutions, handling back to the people of this country that power which in a true democarcy would be and should be theirs". At this point someone – either a Tory or a Liberal member – groaned: "Oh God!"

The problem, from the point of view of the other parties, was that he was addressing them as if they were the Liberal Assembly.

Furthermore, his act had about it a flavour of *circa* 1968, the deadly ear of participation, as such it had for some of us a certain period chasm. " ... the influence of the Prime Minister and the great Civil Service bureaucracy ... genuine participative democracy ... increasingly Parliament has arrogated to itself all the process of meaningful decision-making." What about viable feedback?

To his credit, Mr Ashdown had the courage of his cliches. Certainly he sounded dated, but he did not seem to mind. Perhaps no one had told him that his ideas were no longer fashionable, or perhaps, to his credit, he did not seem to care about that. All ideas become unfashionable in due course. In a few years' time, right-wingers will become unfashionable. Mr Ashdown has just had bad luck in his choice of era during which to be elected. Hence the confident ribaldry of the other parties at his expense yesterday. None the less, he pressed on, "I must be one of the few MPs who sought to get elected substantially to reduce the influence of Parliament and hand back to the people of Britain the power to control their own destiny", he assured us, wisely avoiding discussion of whether liberal attitudes on, inter alia, capital punishment and immigration represented the views of "the people."

Mr Ashdown sat down to cross-party yawns, but this unity between the two main parties was not maintained for the major statement of the day: Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary for the Environment, being admirably unhysterical about nuclear leaks at Sellafield. These were the only recent leaks about nuclear matters that had not been channelled to *The Guardian*; no Labour members were against them.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Last chance to see

The British Art Show, an Arts Council touring exhibition at the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Mon to Sat 10 to 5; also at the Ikon Gallery, 58-72 John Bright Street, Birmingham; Tues to Sat 10 to 6 (ends Dec 22).

Paintings and drawings by the Brotherhood of Ruralists, Devizes Museum, Long Street, Devizes, Wilts; Tues to Sat 11 to 1 and 2 to 5 (ends Dec 22).

Words and Images from the Lake District; Collins Gallery, University of Strathclyde, 22 Richmond Street, Glasgow; Mon to Fri 10-5 (ends today).

"To Astonish the World" – an exhibition of decorative design over two centuries, the Wedgewood visitor centre, Barlaston, near Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs; Mon to Fri 9 to 5 (ends today).

The Draughtsman's Art: master drawing from the Whiteworth Art Gallery, Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester University, Whitworth Park, Manchester; Thurs 10 to 9 (ends today).

Carol Services

Festival of nine lessons and carols by the Cathedral Choir, Manchester, Cathedral, Manchester, 7.30.

Carols by Candlelight, Pump Room, Bath, 7.30.

Carols, City Hall, Hull, 7.30.

Carols continuous with Merseyside County Police Bank, Liverpool Parish Church, Pierhead, Liverpool, 12 to 2.

The Cathedral Carol Service, Worcester Cathedral, Worcester, 7.30.

Town Carol Service, Wallsall Town Hall, 6.45.

Exhibitions in progress

Landscapes by Ray Howard-Jones, Carmarthen Museum, Abergwili, Wales; Mon to Sat 19-4.30 (closed Sun) (ends Dec 31).

Oriel, Christmas Exhibition of works by Welsh artists, Welsh Arts Council Gallery, 53 Charles Street, Cardiff; Mon to Sat 9 to 5.30, closed Sun (ends Jan 7).

A collection for Christmas – original and rare work by English artists and craftsmen (inc, special toys); Falcon House Gallery, Swan Street, Boxford, Suffolk; Tues to Sat 10.30-6, Sun 2-6, closed Mon (ends Jan 29).

Picture Derby – photographs of Derby from 1900 to 1983, Derby Museum and Art Gallery, the Strand, Derby, Tues to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun to Mon (ends Dec 30).

The Art of Craft: craftwork at Newport Museum and Art Gallery, John Frost Square, Newport, Gwent; Mon to Thurs 10 to 5.30, Fri 10 to 4.30. Sat 9.30 to 4, closed Sun (ends Feb 4).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No. 16,316

ACROSS
1 Rosinante, for one, put on stage (5).
4 Run into one who enumerates letters (9).
9 Tries over again, being a learner at practice (9).
10 'Sfairly hot when workers get together thus (5).
11 Public performance of melody in a simple key (6).
12 Undertakings of our era on right of presentation to a benefice (8).
14 Depositing cash to support railway? (10).
16 A couple of pages on a plane, perhaps (4).
19 Fret, causing mental confusion (4).
20 Journalist chap takes the German fiery spirit (10).
22 Support for Rand, perhaps, in inclement weather (8).
23 Against, or in Paris towards, America (6).
26 Thickness of rope Mill found profitable? (5).
27 In retirement then, a grim, upsetting experience (9).
28 Breach of faith of tutor and youth leader? About right (9).
29 Why, we hear, idle characters return (5).

DOWN
1 Roué in low water in Morocco (9).
2 Doorkeeper demanding silence in Bow? (5).
3 Instructing – in rail travel? (8).
4 Midshipman commonly having no preference (4).
5 About to drink to fellow Scotsman, was he? (10).
6 Hounds put out like hunters at grass (6).
7 Follow metrical system, perhaps, in tendency to excel (9).
8 French novel for this type? The contrary, probably (5).
13 Intolerance of Gilbertian dairymaid's introduction (10).
15 Bit zany, perhaps – one without head for this architecture (9).
17 Husband arranged dates in the agricultural area (9).
18 Fabric of type rats ruin (or moths?) (8).
21 Very cold for one of Noah's parasites, say (6).
22 Sounds like a hill named long ago (5).
24 Empty place in, for example, Leamington church (5).
25 No oil-painting, this customer (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,315

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

Pre-Raphaelite room

Manchester City Art Gallery has reopened its famous Pre-Raphaelite Room, which has been sumptuously restored with the aid of a Victorian pattern book. The collection includes some of the best known paintings of the school, like Ford Madox Brown's *Work*, Sir John Everett Millais' *Autumn Leaves* and William Holman Hunt's *The Hircling Shepherd* and *the Shadow of Death*.

Jumbo crossword

The Times Jumbo Christmas crossword will appear on Saturday, December 24. Newsagents may wish to order extra supplies to ensure that regular readers can order a copy.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Christmas adjournment debates on various topics.

Anniversaries

Births: John Crome, painter, founder of the "Norwich School", Norwich, 1768; Jean Henri Fabre, entomologist, Saint Léons, France, 1823; Giacomo Puccini, Luca, Italy, 1858; Edgar Varèse, composer, Paris, 1883. Deaths: George Eliot, (Mary Ann Evans), London, 1880; Richard von Kraft-Ebing, psychiatrist, Graz, Austria, 1902.

New books – paperbacks

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:
Dutch Paintings, by Christopher Brown (Collins, £6.95)
French Paintings After 1800, by Michael Wilson (Collins, £6.95)
Northern Ireland since 1920, by David Harkness (Helicon, £3.50)
Popular Tales of the West Highlands, by J. F. Campbell (Wildwood House, £5.50)
Shadows on the Grass, by Simon Raven (Sphere, £1.95)
Tales from the Don, by Mikhail Sholokhov (Abacus, £2.95)
The Goebbels Diaries 1939-1941, Translated and edited by Fred Taylor (Sphere, £1.95)
The Journals of Anais Nin, 1966-1974 (Quartet, £4.95)
The National Gallery Children's Book, by Anthea Peppin (National Gallery, £3.95)
The Politics of Parliamentary Reform, edited by David Judge (Heineman, £6.50) PH

The papers

Commenting on a congressional investigation into the bombing of US Marines in Beirut the New York Times says: "A House subcommittee that inquired into the massacre of 241 marines in Lebanon eight weeks ago found their security inadequate and blames it on their officers in Beirut and in the chain of command all the way back to Washington. That there are important lessons to be learned from this tragedy is certain. But pointing fingers at individuals seems less useful. It is easy enough in retrospect to say the marines should have been prepared against so obvious a danger as a truck bomb. Surprising as it may seem, however, the danger cannot have been generally obvious ... Because the marines were under daily sniper and artillery attack, their commander, not illogically, put many of them into the steel-reinforced headquarters building for greater protection. That relocation created the final vulnerability. It is natural to assign blame for disasters and to seek scapegoats for misfortune- ... But after all the post-mortems, the death of the young marines will remain most truly a consequence of national policy in Lebanon, not the burden for any one man to carry."

Electric boats

Viscount St Davids, who is chairman of the Electric Boat Owners Association, is anxious to encourage the use of this silent, non-polluting form of recreation, and wished to hear from conservation-minded waterside residents (including pub landlords and the like) who can supply an ordinary 13-amp power outlet not more than 50 yards from a mooring. Boat owners will pay £2 for overnight use of the mooring and re-charging, which uses only about £1 worth of electricity. Details from 15 St Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, London NW1 7TS. He is also pleased to show his electric boat by appointment at his canal-side home.

Stamp competition

The National Army Museum is holding a "design an Army postage stamp" competition in conjunction with its current exhibition "the British Army on stamps" The exhibition is open to young people up to 18. Prizes will be awarded for the best designs based on museum exhibits. Closing date is January 15, 1984.

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Roads

London and South-east: M20: Contraflow on both carriageways from A20 (junction 5 Maidstone West) to ¼ mile east of A249 (junction 7 Sheerness/Sittingbourne); avoid if possible.
Wales and West: A4061: Single-line traffic, temporary lights 24hrs Hirwaun-Tynewydd road, Rhigos mountain road. A38: Eastbound carriageway closed east of Lee Mill on Ivy Bridge-Plymouth road. A483: Temporary traffic lights in Wind Street, Ammanford. Long delays.
Midlands: A34: Roadworks, delays south of Shipston on Stour at Tidmington, Warwickshire. A45: Roadworks on Coventry-Daventry road at Fosse crossing, Warwickshire. A61: Traffic signals controlling traffic at Clay Cross, Derbys.
North: A57: New roundabout construction, traffic signals delays between Aston and Sheffield at Sheffield Road Fence, South Yorkshire. A1(M): Lane closures at Peareth Hall, Washington, Tyne and Wear. M62: Carriageway repairs, east and westbound lane closures between junction 22 (Ripponden) and 26 (Dewsbury/Bradford/Halifax).
Scotland: A82: Single-line traffic, temporary lights ½ mile south of White Corries, Glencoe. A1: Single-lane traffic east of Tranent. A87: Rock scaling will periodically halt traffic for up to 10 minutes between Shield Bridge and Cluanie. Traffic reduced to a single lane controlled by lights.

Information supplied by AA

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.69	1.59
Austria Sch	28.85	27.25
Belgium Fr	83.75	79.75
Canada $	1.83	1.76
Denmark Kr	14.76	14.06
Finland Mkk	8.69	8.29
France Fr	12.32	11.82
Germany DM	4.06	3.87
Greece Dr	160.00	150.00
Hongkong $	11.30	10.70
Ireland Pt	1.30	1.25
Italy Lira	2450.00	2340.00
Japan Yen	349.00	331.00
Netherlands Gld	4.58	4.35
Norway Kr	11.54	10.94
Portugal Esc	194.00	184.00
South Africa Rd	1.82	1.69
Spain Pta	231.00	221.00
Sweden Kr	11.98	11.38
Switzerland Fr	3.26	3.09
USA $	1.46	1.41
Yugoslavia Dnr	214.00	204.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 341.9

London: The *FT* Index closed 2.2 up at 772.0.

Weather

A depression will move away slowly NE from northern Scotland but a frontal trough over SW England is expected to move NE over southern and western Britain.

6am to midnight

London, SE, central N England, East Anglia, E, W Midlands: Cloud thickening, outbreaks of rain, SW backing SE for a time, moderate or fresh; mild, max temp 8 or 9C (46F to 48F).

Central S, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Cloudy, rain, heavy at times, some drier intervals developing; wind SE veering SW, fresh or strong, locally gale force for a time; max temp 9C to 11C (48F to 52F).

E, NE England, Borders: Fog patches clearing, sunny but becoming cloudy with rain later; wind S veering SW later moderate; max temp 8C or 9C (46F to 48F).

N Wales, NW, NE England, Borders, Isle of Man: Bright intervals, cloud thickening, outbreaks of rain; wind S or SW moderate increasing fresh; max 8C or 9C (46F to 48F).

Lake District, Edinburgh, Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow: A few fog patches clearing, sunny intervals becoming cloudy with rain later; wind variable light, becoming SE or S moderate, locally fresh; maxt temp 8C or 9C (46F to 48F).

Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, NW Scotland, Northern Ireland: Showers dying out, sunny intervals developing; wind variable becoming southerly, light increasing moderate, locally fresh; max temp 7C to 9C (45F to 48F).

NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, slowly dying out; wind N fresh, or strong, variable light later; max temp 7C tor 8C (45F or 46F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Continuing mild and unsettled.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover; Wind SW light or moderate; sea slight. English Channel (E): Wind SW light increasing fresh or strong later; sea smooth becoming rough later. St George's Channel; Wind SW light becoming S strong or gale; sea smooth becoming rough. Irish Sea; Wind mainly S light or moderate; sea slight.

Sun rises: 8.04 am | Sun sets: 3.54 pm
Moon sets: 10.29 am | Moon rises: 6.33 pm
Last quarter: December 26.

Lighting-up time

London 4.24 pm to 7.35 am
Bristol 4.34 pm to 7.44 am
Edinburgh 4.10 pm to 8.13 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud: f, fair: r, rain; s, sun.

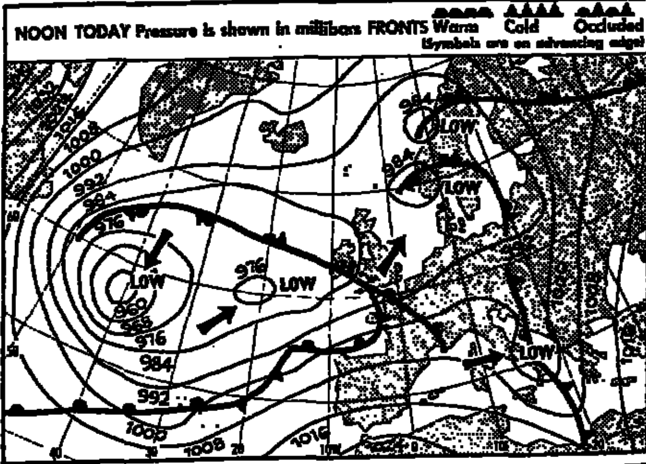
		C	F			C	F
Blackpool	r	7	45	Jersey	s	9	48
Bristol	f	9	48	London	f	9	48
Cardiff	f	9	48	Manchester	c	8	46
Edinburgh	c	7	45	Newcastle	c	8	46
Glasgow	f	9	48	Ronaldsway	c	8	46

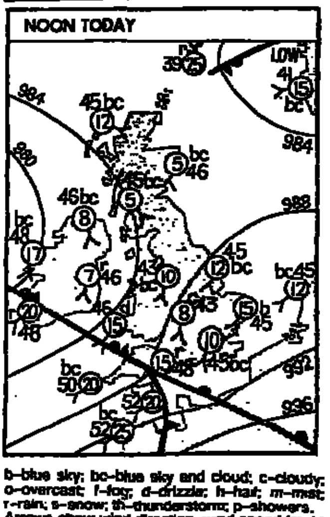
Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Camborne 12C (54F), lowest day max: Lerwick 6C (43F) highest rainfall: Hartland (Devon) 2.52 in; highest sunshine: Cromer 5.2 hr.

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10C (50F), min 6 pm to 6 am 7C (45F). Humidity: 6 pm, 82 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.04in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 2.4. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 990.8 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in





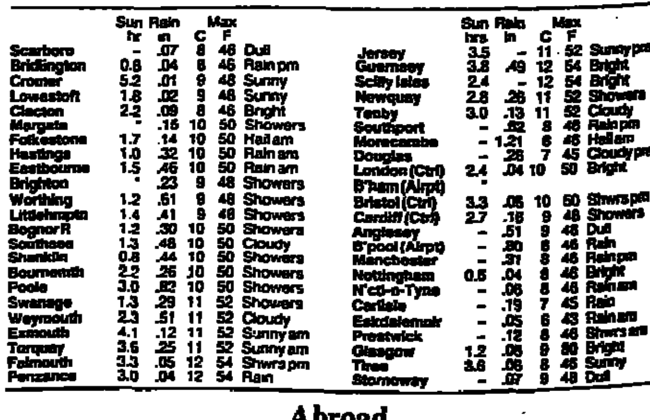
b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled, temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Milford Haven	7.31	7.1	7.59	6.9
Newquay	6.21	7.1	6.50	6.9
Oban	6.47	4.1	7.29	3.9
Penzance	6.13	5.7	6.45	5.5
Portland	8.16	2.3	8.57	2.1
Portsmouth	12.28	4.6	12.44	4.8
Shoreham	12.15	6.2	12.31	6.3
Southampton	-	-	12.11	4.5
Swansea	7.35	9.6	8.04	9.4
Tees	4.54	5.4	5.09	5.6
Walton-on-Naze	12.46	4.2	1.07	4.4

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

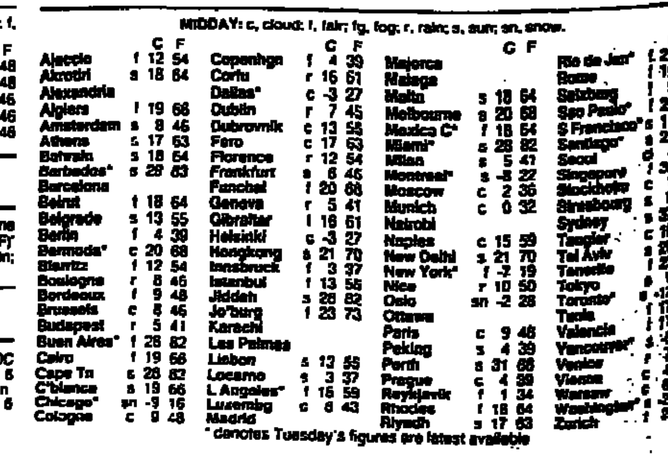
Around Britain



	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	-	.07	8	46	Dull
Bridlington	0.6	.04	8	46	Rain pm
Cromer	5.2	.01	9	48	Sunny
Lowestoft	1.8	.02	9	48	Sunny
Clacton	2.2	.09	8	46	Bright
Margate	-	.15	10	50	Showers
Folkestone	1.7	.14	10	50	Hail am
Hastings	1.0	.32	10	50	Rain am
Eastbourne	1.5	.46	10	50	Rain am
Brighton	-	.23	9	48	Showers
Worthing	1.2	.61	9	48	Showers
Littlehmptn	1.4	.41	9	48	Showers
Bognor R	1.2	.30	10	50	Showers
Southsea	1.3	.48	10	50	Cloudy
Shanklin	0.8	.44	10	50	Showers
Bournemth	2.2	.26	10	50	Showers
Poole	3.0	.82	10	50	Showers
Swanage	1.3	.29	11	52	Showers
Weymouth	2.3	.51	11	52	Cloudy
Exmouth	4.1	.12	11	52	Sunny am
Torquay	3.6	.25	11	52	Sunny am
Falmouth	3.3	.05	12	54	Shwrs pm
Penzance	3.0	.04	12	54	Rain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Jersey	3.5	-	11	52	Sunny pm
Guernsey	3.8	.49	12	54	Bright
Scilly Isles	2.4	-	12	54	Bright
Newquay	2.8	.26	11	52	Showers
Tenby	3.0	.13	11	52	Cloudy
Southport	-	.62	8	46	Rain pm
Morecambe	-	1.21	8	46	Hail am
Douglas	-	.28	7	45	Cloudy pm
London (Ctrl)	2.4	.04	10	50	Bright
B'ham (Airpt)	-				
Bristol (Ctrl)	3.3	.06	10	50	Shwrs pm
Cardiff (Ctrl)	2.7	.18	9	48	Showers
Anglesey	-	.51	9	48	Dull
B'pool (Airpt)	-	.80	8	46	Rain
Manchester	-	.31	8	46	Rain pm
Nottingham	0.5	.04	8	46	Bright
N'cstl-o-Tyne	-	.06	8	46	Rain am
Carlisle	-	.19	7	45	Rain
Eskdalemuir	-	.05	6	43	Rain am
Prestwick	-	.12	8	46	Shwrs am
Glasgow	1.2	.08	9	48	Bright
Tiree	3.6	.08	8	46	Sunny
Stornoway	-	.07	9	48	Dull

Abroad



MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F
Ajaccio	f	12	54
Akrotiri	s	18	64
Alexandria			
Algiers	f	19	66
Amsterdam	s	8	46
Athens	s	17	63
Bahrain	s	18	64
Barbados*	s	28	83
Barcelona			
Beirut	f	18	64
Belgrade	s	13	55
Berlin	f	4	39
Bermuda*	c	20	68
Biarritz	f	12	54
Boulogne	r	8	46
Bordeaux	f	9	48
Brussels	c	8	46
Budapest	r	5	41
Buen Aires*	f	28	82
Cairo	f	19	66
Cape Tn	s	28	82
C'blanca	s	19	66
Chicago*	sn	-9	16
Cologne	c	9	48

		C	F
Copenhgn	f	4	39
Corfu	r	16	61
Dallas*	c	-3	27
Dublin	r	7	45
Dubrovnik	c	13	55
Faro	c	17	63
Florence	r	12	54
Frankfurt	s	8	46
Funchal	f	20	68
Geneva	r	5	41
Gibraltar	f	16	61
Helsinki	c	-3	27
Hongkong	s	21	70
Innsbruck	f	3	37
Istanbul	f	13	55
Jiddah	s	28	82
Jo'burg	f	23	73
Karachi			
Las Palmas			
Lisbon	s	13	55
Locarno	s	3	37
L Angeles*	f	15	59
Luxembg	c	6	43
Madrid			

		C	F
Majorca			
Malaga			
Malta	s	18	64
Melbourne	s	20	68
Mexico C*	f	18	64
Miami*	s	28	82
Milan	s	5	41
Montreal*	s	-5	22
Moscow	c	2	36
Munich	c	0	32
Nairobi			
Naples	c	15	59
New Delhi	s	21	70
New York*	f	-7	19
Nice	r	10	50
Oslo	sn	-2	28
Ottawa			
Paris	c	9	48
Peking	s	4	39
Perth	s	31	88
Prague	c	4	39
Reykjavik	f	1	34
Rhodes	f	18	64
Riyadh	s	17	63

		C	F
Rio de Jan*	f	28	82
Rome	f	16	61
Salzburg	f	5	41
Sao Paulo*	f	28	82
S Francisco*	s	11	52
Santiago*	s	22	72
Seoul	d	4	39
Singapore	f	30	86
Stockholm	c	1	34
Strasbourg	s	9	48
Sydney	s	37	99
Tangier	c	16	61
Tel Aviv	s	20	68
Tenerife	f	23	73
Tokyo	s	9	48
Toronto*	s	-12	10
Tunis	f	17	63
Valencia	f	17	63
Vancouver*	s	-6	21
Venice	f	7	45
Vienna	c	4	39
Warsaw	c	6	43
Washington*	s	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	f	[illegible]	[illegible]

* denotes Tuesday's figures are latest available

هكذا من الأصل